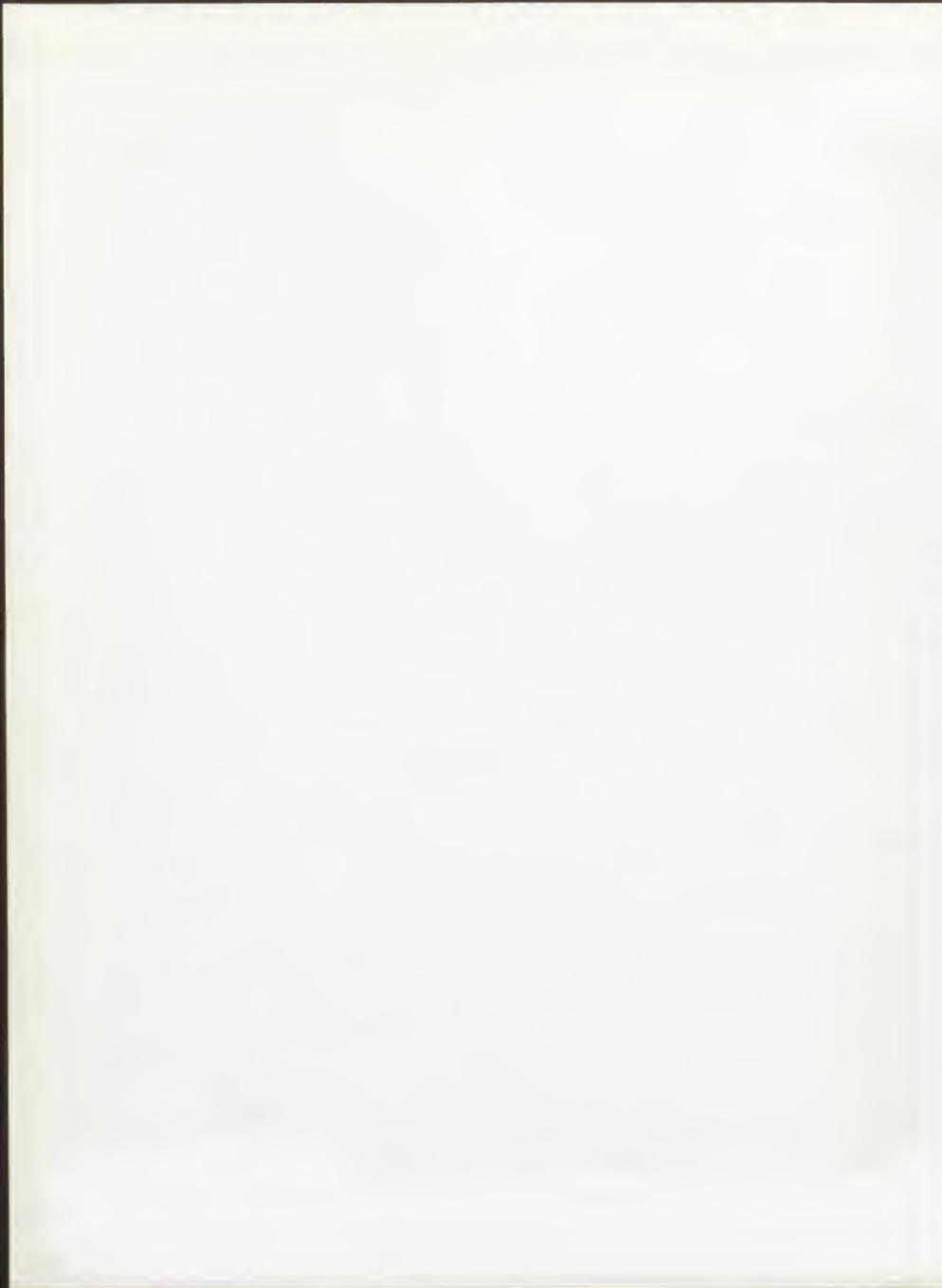


Made
in
The
'80s

Portage High School
6450 US Highway 6
Portage, IN 46368

Legend 2004-2005 VOL. 64



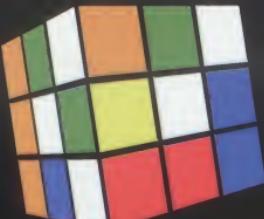




Made
in
The
80s

Legend 2004-200

Portage High School
US Highway 6
Portage, IN 46368



The class of 1980 strutted through the gymnasium doors with diplomas in hand. Little did they know that we would refer to them in the year of 2005.

The addition of the second building, (for the 1979-1980 school year) not only expanded Portage High School, but also allowed more diversity within the student body.

"Made in the '80s" not only refers to the building itself, but also to the present day student body at Portage High School.

Although some students were born in the '90s, all students were technically "Made in the '80s."

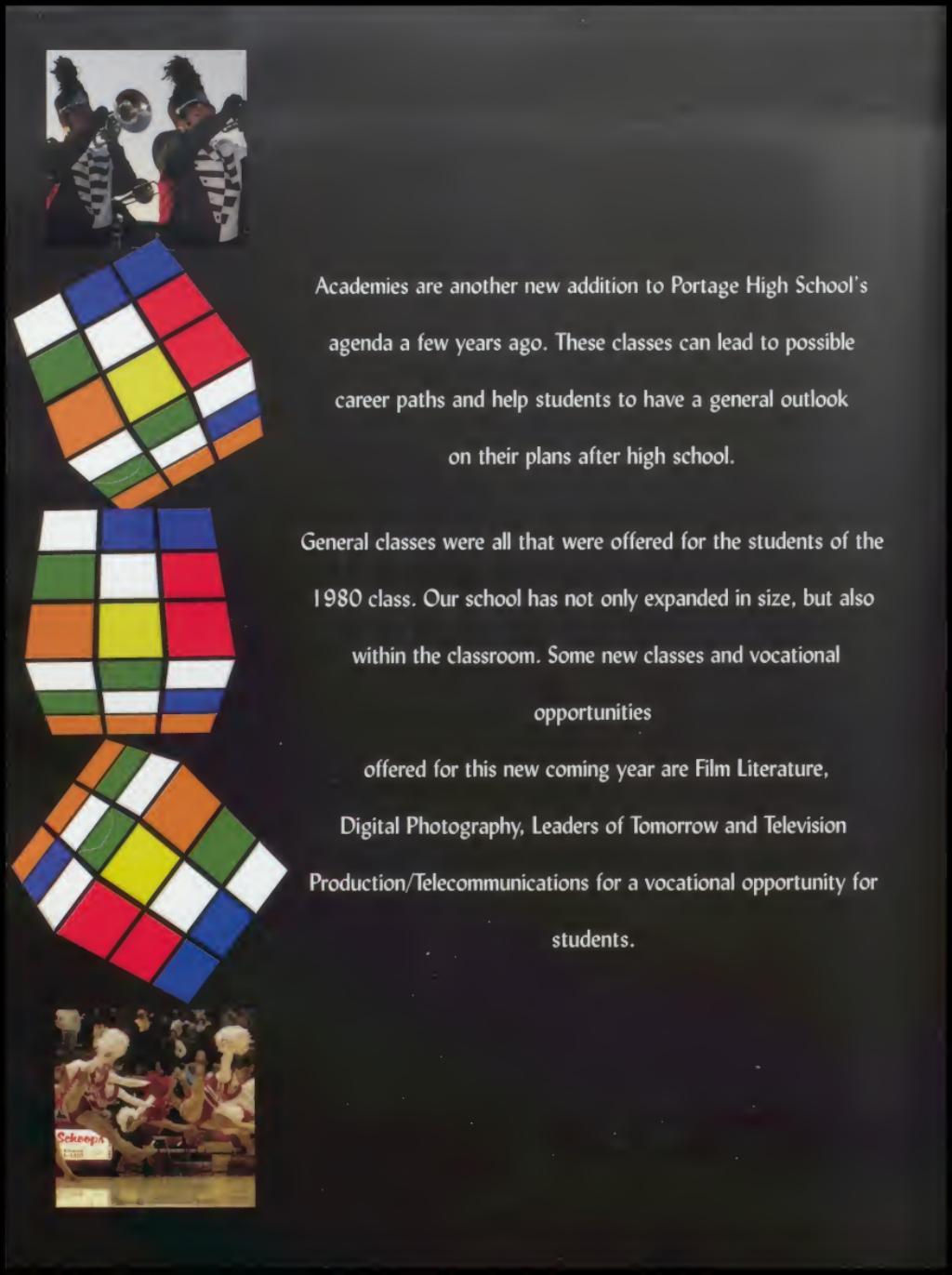


As the 1980 yearbook, entitled "Handle With Care", stated that Portage High School was under construction, we also can relate to that statement today since we are currently preparing for the construction of a new field house and other facilities to add to the premises. Not many students believe that the work they put forth in high school transfers into their later life, SAT scores, as well as an average GPA, can predict a better chance for success.



Through both trials and tribulations, the student body at Portage High School holds their respective heads up high and are sure to have a positive attitude for an exceptionally positive day.





Academies are another new addition to Portage High School's agenda a few years ago. These classes can lead to possible career paths and help students to have a general outlook on their plans after high school.

General classes were all that were offered for the students of the 1980 class. Our school has not only expanded in size, but also within the classroom. Some new classes and vocational opportunities offered for this new coming year are Film Literature, Digital Photography, Leaders of Tomorrow and Television Production/Telecommunications for a vocational opportunity for students.



Portage High School has undergone many changes over the years, but the school as a whole remains relatively the same. The future is looking bright for our current student body. No one knows what our future has in store for us, but we do know where we have been and that our future is based on our past.

A past that was...

Made
in
The
80's



LOCAL AND NATIONAL NEWS

Did you feel the tsunami story is over rated?



ROBERT TUESBURG, 12

As long as we keep helping them, I don't think we should forget about the disaster.



RAY MEEHAN, 9

Yes, it's important that we give to other countries for their disasters, when we have our own to handle.

RYAN TRUNK, 11

Yes, we have a lot more to worry about. We should be worrying about our soldiers at war.



AMANDA KAPALKO, 12

Do you think that the SAT will be of benefit to you?



KIMBERLY PAYNE, 11

Yes, it might help other sections that people are stronger in to increase their score.



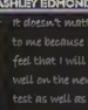
JANA ZERVOIS, 12

No, you are still going to have the same score so if people did well before, they will do well.



ASHLEY EDMONDS, 12

No, it just adds more points that must be obtained to get a good score.



KRAIG KRIEGER, 11

It doesn't matter to me because I feel that I will do well on the new test as well as the older one.

Tsunami: Devastation on South Asia and East Africa

by: kimberely reddin

Devastation struck on December 26, when parts of South Asia and East Africa were hit by a tsunami. The death toll surpassed 150,000 people with many still missing. The waves reached over twenty feet.

A tsunami is a Japanese word, which translates as "harbor wave", now used internationally to refer to a series of waves traveling across the ocean with extremely long wavelengths (up to hundreds of miles between wave crests in the deep ocean). When these waves approach shore, the speed of the wave decreases as they begin to "feel" the bottom. It is at this time that the height of the wave drastically increases. As the waves strike shore they may inundate low-lying coastal areas resulting in mass destruction and in many instances loss of life, according to www.tsunami.org. <<http://www.tsunami.org>>.

Many relief efforts have taken place since. People are reaching far into their pockets and hearts to try to help contribute to the support of the victims of the tsunamis. Celebrities have made large donations; Japanese stars have even decided to remake a 1980s song, which 100% of the proceeds will go to the relief efforts.

Local efforts are being made here in Portage Indiana. The elementary

school Crisman gave each student a bottle of water and asked when each bottle had been drank to fill the bottle up with change or money and the proceeds would go to one of the relief funds for the children.

"When my child came home from school with the paper and the bottle I was happy to see the school was teaching the kids about caring for others and helping people out, it is nice to know the school wants to teach compassion," stated mother of Crisman student, Karen Cahillane.

Walmart has also did its part encouraging customers to donate what they could for the tsunami.

"Walmart is a place most people go in the community so it was a good idea to have a place where people could make donations," stated Walmart worker Joshua Guidarelli.

The tsunami left many children orphaned and homeless. Adoptions were not being made though because the children could not be considered orphans, due to the fact that they could just be merely separated from their parents. Many refugee camps were set up with a high possibility that parents and children are separated, which is devastating enough.

The tsunami affected many lives in a large variety of ways. Each person dealt with something terrible to deal with after the tsunami. With all the relief actions being made, it is a hope that the aftermath would be made a little easier to deal with for all those that were affected during this devastation.



Headed on the Right Track

by: amanda burch

A new student society was formed to represent the staff and student population here at Portage High School. Their duty was to meet and greet new visitors and students and give the guided tour of the school as well as assist in staff meetings and events. These fellow student leaders were given the title of Arrowhead Ambassadors.

"Our duties are to have great attitudes, represent the school, wear a uniform, greet people who are not from our school and make them feel welcome here at Portage, where together we succeed," states junior Olivia Zamarron.

Many wonder how one could become such a leader. Over the first few weeks of the new school year, signs were posted around school and teachers, as well as sources from student council and staff, helped to push the students toward becoming involved in the new found organization.

"I wanted to be an Ambassador because I saw this as an opportunity to show other students that they could do anything they put their mind to," stated senior Jacinta Anekwe. "I also wanted to prove something to myself that I could be responsible enough to become one of Portage High School's Ambassadors."

Not just anybody could become an Ambassador. It takes many hours after school, extra homework due to being taken out of classes, and sacrificing free time to long hours spent at school functions.

"When selecting the students we looked for a good personality, cheerfulness, good students academically as well as

behavior wise, responsible, one who is involved in extra curricular activities but not excessively, and lastly, we chose ones who wanted to work on their leadership qualities" commented Assistant Principal Eric Floyd.

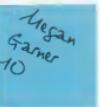
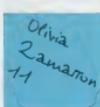
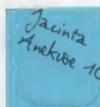
There are many downsides of being an Ambassador, but there are many perks and benefits as well. Some of these perks include free admission to prom as well as all dances and sporting events, attaining a close parking spot, getting out of class, free shirts and it was reported that name tags were in the works. The true benefits lie in being able to gain experience and knowledge from the various visitors and authority figures that come to explore the different aspects and elements of the school.

It is best stated by senior James Geary. "I wanted to find a way to give back to the school in a positive way and this was it for me."

Not only was this a way to gain experience and knowledge but it was also a way for students to become acquainted with the role models in the surrounding communities. It became a learning experience, not just for the students but for the adults as well.

Senior Paige Roy expressed her gratitude towards the program.

"The most interesting person I got to show around was a lady who was a representative from IUN. She was very glad to see the ambassador program and she told me stories about her own journey in high school. I really thought that was interesting. I couldn't wait until the next duty so that I could meet more individuals like her."



SAT'S Changing and How It Will Effect PHS

by:samantha neary



OLYMPIC SPOTLIGHT: TOP OF THEIR GAME

With the first recorded Olympic games having taken place in 776 B.C. the format of the games have changed dramatically. The modern Olympics, we are familiar with, began during the 1896 Olympic games in Athens and are without major change as the Olympics came back to Athens for the 2004 Summer Games. On August 13, 2004, 72,000 spectators and billions of television viewers watched the opening ceremonies of the Athens Games, and as in years past, anticipated the young athletes rise to the top.

"There is no greater honor for an athlete than representing his or her country in the Olympic games," commented Chaf Executive of the USOC, Jim Schear, before the start of the competitions. (According to OlympicUSA.org)

Newcomer Michael Phelps became America's golden boy and won the hearts of the viewing public. At only 19 years of age, Phelps tied with Aleksandr Dritvin for the greatest number of medals won in a single Olympics. Phelps ended the games as recipient of eight medals including six gold and two bronze.

"An Olympian is an Olympian for life and that is something no one can ever take away," explained Phelps after accepting the Male Athlete of the Year Award.

by: amanda stasik
(According to OlympicUSA.org)

Paul Hamm became a well-known name as well after leaving the games as the first American man to win the male all-around gymnast competition. He won by just .012 points putting Kim Dae-Eun of South Korea in a close second; this is now known as the closest win in Olympic history.

"It was my goal when I came here to win. I thought I could, but I can't say I expected to win," Paul Hamm modestly stated after coming back from twelfth place to first. (According to OlympicUSA.org)

Although not the U.S.'s first, Carly Patterson won female all around gymnast at the age of 16. Along with that great accomplishment, Patterson also walked away with two silver medals including one for team competition and the other for balance beam.

"She brings that extra touch to competition," stated Martha Karolyi, women's gymnastic coordinator, and thus goes on to compare Patterson to past U.S. gymnastic greats by including, "Carly has the same quality that Nadia and Mary Lou had." (According to OlympicUSA.org)

After two long weeks and twenty ceremonies, the United States won the race with 33 medals including 35 gold. Russia came in second with 91 and China followed up in third with 63 medals in all. The Olympic Summer Games will continue in Beijing in 2008 and there once again our athletes will compete to break records and rise to the top.

Right now the NHL players are doing many different activities since they have so much off time. Chris Christie is planning to form a Greek bob-sled team and compete in the 2006 Olympic games in Turin, Italy. There have been over 200 NHL players who have headed overseas to play hockey. Mark Bell of the Chicago Blackhawks is considering contract offers from hockey clubs in Sweden and Finland.

"I was very disappointed when I first heard about it and now I don't get to watch my favorite players," said Pankiewicz.

Steve Pospit of the Chicago Blackhawks knows how important it is to keep on preparing as though the season could start at anytime. Steve Pospit works out with other players at the gym twice a week, lifting weights, spinning classes, and he has on-ice practices with other players.

Scott Nichol from the Chicago Blackhawks has been to the on-ice practices and has gone to the gym with some of the NHL players in the area. He said he wanted to continue working out and going to the rink because he thinks the

HURRICANE'S: THE DEADLY DISASTERS

by: stephanie greer

If you ask anyone they will tell you about one of the worst hurricane seasons that happened was in the fall of 2004. Everywhere people turned they were hearing about the hurricanes in Florida and the damage it brought to people's properties there. If either the news referenced Hurricane Frances, Ivan, or Charley we sure did hear about them. Just like we had 3 destructive hurricanes in Florida before, we also had 3 terrible hurricanes with Kate, Elena, and Floyd in the 1980's.

Meteorologist's who have studied the hurricanes in Florida have stated that September is the worst time of year to be living near the Gulf of Mexico. At an average the month of September has about 315 storms that can result into a disastrous hurricane. The month of August is not far behind with an average of 229 storms a year. By the time October comes, the storms die down to about 193 and then when November comes, the region only receives about forty four. Out of all of these storms about five to seven actually result in hurricanes. However, since most hurricanes remain out at sea, the number has little relationship with a chance of experiencing high winds or surge near Florida's landscapes.

"Overall, this has been a very destructive and costly hurricane season," said meteorologist Stu Ostro of the Weather Channel. "The official totals are not in yet, but this will

likely go down as the costliest hurricane season on record in the U.S."

The vast majority of that destruction focused on Florida, whose miseries of storms began August 13. When Hurricane Charley slammed into Punta Gorda, about seventy miles south of Tampa. With winds of 145 miles an hour, Charley's wind speeds made it a Category Four storm. On Labor Day weekend, Hurricane Frances, a Category Two hurricane came next. Then came Hurricane Ivan, which at one point was one of the most fearsome storms on record books. Ivan had winds of 165 miles an hour as it came across the Caribbean. Ivan lost strength before making a landfall near Mobile, Alabama, but the hurricane's front right quadrant, which always packs the most powerful punch, provided to slam Pensacola, Florida. Ivan caused massive damage and added to Florida's 2004 hurricane death toll which now stands at more than seventy people altogether.

After the terrible hurricanes, a local 6 news exclusive survey found that thirty one percent of people asked said that this year's storm season has caused them to think about leaving their homes and moving to state with less hurricanes. However, sixty-nine percent of the people that were surveyed said that, they have not thought about moving away from Florida because it is their homestate.

One thing he can have control over is what sort of shape he is in. He thought it would be better to keep skating instead of taking time off.

"Everybody looks forward to hockey season because it's one of the greatest sports," said Pankiewicz.

Scoot has also tried to make the most out of spending time with his few teammates that are still around the area. Blackhawks goalie Jocelyn Thibault stops by his house occasionally to visit.

"I just love hockey season gets started again soon because I can't wait to see the Detroit Red Wings win the Stanley Cup again," said Joseph Pankiewicz.

We know that the 2004-2005 season is cancelled. This is the first time in any major league sport in the United States that any sport did not have a season. Only time will tell if the NHL will start up next year.

National Hockey League Lockout

by: nikita momola

The NHL is undergoing a lockout that no one knows how long it will last. Owners of all the hockey teams want to put a stop on each of the teams in the NHL. This will mean that teams will only be allowed to spend a particular amount of money on players and teams yearly.

"They shouldn't have a lockout because the fans will be missing out on watching their favorite teams and players," said junior Joe Pankiewicz.

We are now without hockey until a settlement is reached between the players and the organizations. The players are angry because they are not getting the amount of money that they feel they deserve. The NHL and the NHL players have not met or spoken since a negotiating session in Toronto on September 9, 2004. It was one week before the lockout began. No talks are scheduled anytime soon. Both sides do not seem close to budging or coming to an agreement anytime soon.

Pankiewicz stated, "Not having hockey will bring down the hockey organization because people will be less interested in hockey."



Putting the Curse TO AN END

Finally putting their eighty-six year curse to rest, the Boston Red Sox triumphed over



their opponents, the St. Louis Cardinals in the final game of the World Series.

Opposed against them, the Red Sox faced the Anaheim Angels in the Division Series and defeated them three games to none. Next, the Sox opposed their long time rivals the New York Yankees and overcame them four games to three; a feat that proved to be the biggest series comeback in post season history.

In midst of the excitement, a tragic event occurred following the Sox win of the American League Pennant. Twenty-one year old Emerson College student, Victoria Snelgrave passed away outside Fenway Park due to a head injury. The wound was imposed by a local police officer in an attempt to calm an unruly crowd. Soon after the incident she passed at Brigham and Women's Hospital. Sixteen others were also

injured as a result of the uncontrollable crowd.

Another unfortunate injury to act up was the torn sleath in Curt Schilling's right ankle. If it were not for Red Sox team doctor, Bill Morgan there would have been no possible way Schilling would have

been able to pitch in the post season. To aid in easing the pain Reebok specifically made a cleat with personalized ankle support to assist Schilling in pitching during the post season games. Luckily for the Sox Schilling was able to fight through the pain and assist his team to succeed.

After conquering the Yankees, the Sox then moved on to face the St. Louis Cardinals in the World Series. Energy on their side, the Sox beat the Cardinals in the first four games of the series. Completing this tremendous triumph was what the Sox had been struggling to achieve for the past eighty-six years. "The Curse of the Bambino" was placed upon the Red Sox by former teammate Babe Ruth in 1916 after Ruth was traded to the New York Yankees. The curse stuck strong throughout the years. The Sox proved this year that

not even an eighty-six year curse could prevent them from taking the title of the World Series they had yearned for so long.

The closest the Sox had come to winning the World Series title had been in 1986. This was the nearest a team had ever gotten to winning a World Series in history without actually prevailing. Champagne bottles in hand Sox fans prepared to rejoice in their team's victory. The festivities quickly came to a halt after Bill Buckner allowed



the ball to slide through his legs. The Red Sox hopelessly watched as the victory they thought was theirs slipped through their hands and into the mitts of the New York Mets.

by: jessica hedges

Did you enjoy the World Series this year?



I think St. Louis should have because they haven't had the opportunity in a long time so they deserved the title.

TIMOTHY McCABEE, 12

They did well, although it was an upset when St. Louis lost, but I give the Red Sox credit because they deserved it as well.



NOLAN GRAVES, 12



Yes, I was glad the Red Sox won because they played very well and came through in tough spots.

TRACY MARKWELL, 12

What was your favorite event of the Olympics?

I thought it was ridiculous that the Japanese wanted Paul Hamm's medal!



ALICIA LABOY, 11



Favorite event this year in the Olympics was the Swimming, Michael Phelps!

CHRISTOPHER BOULT, 12

Diving, it was the only thing on the TV and it was entertaining to watch because it's their own art.

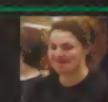


TRISHA SABOCIK, 12

Marathon Running, I am a runner and it inspired me to have a better drive to run during the school season.

LEAH BEARS, 12

Shot put, because I went to Olympia and saw where shot put took first place.



ATHANASIA PAPACHRONIS, 12

NATIONAL NEWS! CONTINUED



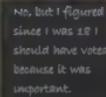
ELECTION DECISION 2004

Did "Vote or Die" get you to vote?



No, but I heard about teenage voting being down this election and it persuaded me to vote.

LAURA MERKER, 12



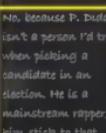
No, but I figured since I was 18 I should have voted because it was important.

STEPHEN SWEAT, 12



No, I was going to vote regardless of all of the publicity and it seemed like it was a hype over nothing.

RAYMOND GOSS, 12



No, because P. Diddy isn't a person I'd trust when picking a candidate in an election. He is a mainstream rapper, let mine stick to that.

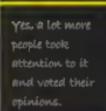
KYLE JACOBS, II

Did you feel that this election was more serious than the last election?



Yes, because the issues were a lot more serious this year because of the war.

TARIN MILLIGAN, 12



DOUGLAS HALE, 12

Was the election fair this year?



Yes, because we didn't have major recounts this year like we did during the last election.

PAIGE ROY, 12

Close Call For All

by: hannah mckee

On November 2, 2004, after months of campaigning and preaching their opinions, the two presidential candidates, George W. Bush and John Kerry, could do nothing but wait. For on this day, Americans set out to elect the next president of the United States of America. Although some crucial states, such as Ohio, were too close to call the morning after, Bush and his campaign were certain that he would carry the Republican Party to victory and they were right.

The day after the election, many news stations and publications were predicting that the incumbent Bush would win with at least 286 electoral votes leaving Senator Kerry with only 252. Nevertheless, Kerry and his campaign still believed that with all of the provisional ballots left to be counted in Ohio they could possibly win.

"John Kerry and I made a promise to the US people that in this election every vote would count and every vote would be counted. Tonight we are keeping our word and we will fight for every vote," stated John Edwards in a speech made to the democratic audience during the early hours of November 3rd.

However, once it was clear that there were not enough provisional ballots left to give John Kerry a victory, the



candidate decided to concede so as to not prolong the election and make America suffer. Kerry made it clear that he did not "want the country to be divided anymore" and a short time after he made this statement, he decided to call President Bush to formally concede.

"I hope you are proud of the effort you put in. You should be," said President Bush to Kerry during their five-minute phone call.

The 2004 election brought about the highest voter turn out ever since 1968. Just under 60%

eligible voters exercised their right to vote and in the end, 12 million people voiced their opinion. Of all of these votes, Bush won 51% of the popular vote leaving John Kerry with 48%. Among voters' top concerns were terrorism and moral values where Bush's opinions reigned high. However, some people, including students, believe that America was not given enough information to make an educated decision.

"I believe the people of America needed to be better informed. If they knew and understood the positions of each man, I believe that the outcome would have been a lot different," said junior Jennifer Mose.

However, with every negative opinion of the election, comes a positive. Many students believe that America made the right decision and had the outcome been different, America would be in trouble.

"Had President Bush not been elected, I would have considered moving to Canada," said junior Samantha Tampier in all seriousness.

So here America is, with four more years of President Bush, the only president's son ever to be reelected. Whether America loves him or hates him, the country needs to unify and become one indivisible nation.

Vote Or Die

by: Kathryn Batista

Promotions guru Shawn Prez spent most of the past decade touring products such as hip-hop music, movies, and even soda. Three months ago, he began what he describes as "the most important promotional campaign of his life," — to encourage young people to vote.

"It's important for our generation to find what we stand for and support the candidate whom we think will do the best for our country," explained senior Krisan Cieszkiewicz.

Sean "P. Diddy" Combs, one of music world greatest pioneers of hip-hop, has stepped up in his attempts as a musician to get young adults in the US make their voice heard in November's Presidential election. By taking his "Vote Or Die" campaign to the Democratic Party conference in Boston, Combs, along with a variety of artist, work their way through America influencing the youth of America on this year's election.

"No matter what anybody tells you," Reverend Al Sharpton said, "the real deal is what Puffy said, 'Vote or Die.' Your life could be at stake."

The star has been leading the fight to get several 42 million young and minority voters to engage in the political process. Senior party officials such as Hillary Clinton and Ben Affleck echoed his call by backing up Comb's campaign. Intentions of the specific

campaign were that if celebrities were brought into the picture, the youth of America would feel inclined to become involved in this years extremely closed and imperative election.

"I feel that if a celebrity I looked up to was involved in the campaign, it would make me want to vote a lot more since the person I admire is, rather than some random politician I've never even seen," claimed junior Danielle Leimbach.

According to MTV, the hip-hop mogul resurfaced at New York's Madison Square Garden, where the Republicans held their national convention at the end of August. Compared to 2000's "Rock the Vote" campaign, which promoted about 250,000 votes from the youth, this year's "Vote or Die" campaign rose up to about 4.2 million more votes. Also during this year's election, 17 percent of 18- to 24-year olds stepped up to the call and voted in this crucial race for presidency.

Although this percentage is the same as 2000's, more residents voted this year, making its total amount of youth votes an all-around, high number.

"I think that a larger group of younger people got involved in this year's election because there was so much more promotion on how important this one was. Since the race was going to be so close, it was crucial that everyone gave his or her vote," said Pre-Calculus teacher Charles Tomes.

Best Friends: HeAd-To-HeAd ON PoLiTiCs

Proudly and Unashamedly
Written by:
Amanda Morales



Top Ten Reasons John Kerry Should be Elected

10. He fought in Vietnam and was later, courageous enough, not hypocritical, to speak out against a needless war. He understands war at its core element and the horrors of it. He is therefore, not so eager to bring us to it.
9. He is intelligent and can articulate his opinions and policies to the public.
8. The Democratic Party, from when John Kerry derives, does not nurture a philosophy, that further burdens the already down trodden, but one that attempts to lift them up to the equality.
7. He cares about women's rights. He is pro-choice, not pro-death. His religious affiliations do not reign upon all of his judgements.
6. He has a competent and compassionate running mate who focuses on making ideals a reality rather than ignoring the current reality.
5. John Kerry formulates his own decisions and if put in office would keep content a wider range of people- an important characteristic, particularly in foreign relations.
4. He understands that domestic issues are an important focus and doesn't not run from them by drawing attention to foreign relations. John Kerry recognizes the need for diplomatic communication and strong relationships with other countries without ignoring his own.
3. "Moral Values" shouldn't be basis upon which a president is elected, especially if those values are contradictory with ones own policies. War is immoral, but now that it has begun, the American people needs someone who can see it thoroughly.
2. John Kerry is concerned with social security and medicare.
1. And in closing, A president who "sticks to his guns" when he is holding the wrong weapon is not a fortress of strength or paradigm of consistency, but a stubborn man with ignorant tunnel vision. What is the difference if one doesn't change ones mind when the mind is set on the wrong idea? If our current president can't handle the "hard work" the presidency requires, then he shouldn't. Lastly, John Kerry is an honest man.

Proudly and Unashamedly
Written by:
Alexandria Stewart



Top Ten Reasons George W. Bush Should be Re-Elected

10. George W. Bush is not pretentious.
9. He can laugh at himself and recognize his own shortcomings. After all, we all have them. A president is no different.
8. President Bush actually loves his wife, not her money.
7. George W. Bush recognizes this country's inherent responsibility as the world's one and only superpower, to aid in foreign crises around the world, and is determined to carry out this noble task.
6. George W. Bush knows what he believes and sticks to it. This trait is greatly contrasted in his opponent, who has no idea what he believes, but (to his credit) sometimes knows what certain other high-ranking democrats believe and more or less sticks to that...maybe...for a minute, well, kind of.
5. In that same train of thought, George W. Bush is not afraid to say what he believes, be those belief religious or political, and is gladly willing to face any criticism he may receive like a man.
4. George W. Bush looks nothing at all like Herman Munster.
3. President Bush's strong stance on terrorism around the world let's remember that the War on Terror was not designated the "War on Terror in Afghanistan" or the "War on Terror Tactics Used By Al-Qaeda" This is the war on terror. Period. - has helped him (will continue to help) plant the seeds of democracy in countries where evil was spread around quickly.
2. George W. Bush passionately loves this country and the freedom it stands for.
1. George W. Bush is the classic American boy who presents a strong front to the rest of the world during these turbulent times when real, strong leadership is exactly what the doctor ordered, while at the same time remaining an approachable, trustworthy, loving, and kind man on the domestic front. We couldn't ask for a better man to lead our great nation.



"Martha Stewart Living": IN PRISON

by: andrew culpepper

ON DECEMBER 27, 2001, MARTHA STEWART SOLD HER STOCK IN IMCLONE JUST BEFORE THE SHARE PRICE DROPPED EIGHTEEN PERCENT. ON JUNE 4, 2003, SHE WAS NAMED IN A NINE-COUNT INDICTMENT. ON JULY 15, 2004, STEWART WAS SENTENCED TO FIVE MONTHS IN PRISON, FOLLOWED BY TWO YEARS OF SUPERVISED RELEASE, INCLUDING FIVE MONTHS UNDER HOUSE ARREST. SHE WAS ALSO SENTENCED TO PAY A FINE OF \$30,000. ON OCTOBER 8, 2004, STEWART REPORTED TO FPC ALDERSON TO SERVE HER SENTENCE IN THE MINIMUM-SECURITY PRISON CAMP.

STEWART WAS CHARGED WITH TWO COUNTS OF FALSE STATEMENTS, ONE COUNT OF OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE, AND ONE COUNT OF SECURITIES FRAUD. STEWART WAS ACQUITTED OF THE SECURITIES FRAUD CHARGE, NAMED IN THE NINTH COUNT, ON FEBRUARY 27, 2004. THE REASON FOR THIS EXONERATION WAS BECAUSE JUDGE MIRIAM CEDARBAUM FELT THAT NO JUROR COULD FIND STEWART GUILTY ON THIS CHARGE

BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT.

THE SUPPORT OF STEWART'S FANS WAS WIDELY SHOWN AS SHE WENT THROUGH THE PROCESS. AFTER SHE REPORTED TO ALDERSON, STEWART SAID IN AN OPEN LETTER ON HER WEB PAGE, WWW.MARTHATALKS.COM, THAT SHE HAD RECEIVED MORE THAN 10,000 E-MAILS TO HER WEB SITE AND THOUSANDS OF LETTERS TO HER AT ALDERSON. INCLUDED IN THE LETTERS WERE GIFTS AND MONEY, EVEN THOUGH SHE ISN'T ALLOWED TO RECEIVE THESE ITEMS WHILE IN PRISON.

ON OCTOBER 20, 2004, STEWART'S ATTORNEYS, ROBERT S. MORVILLO AND JOHN T. TIGUE, FILED AN EIGHTY-SEVEN PAGE APPEAL BRIEF TO THE SECOND CIRCUIT OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS. IN THE SAME OPEN LETTER ON HER WEB PAGE, STEWART STATED THAT HER ATTORNEYS "BELIEVE THIS IS A VERY STRONG APPEAL, AND ACCORDINGLY I REMAIN HOPEFUL THAT I WILL BE EXONERATED." A DECISION ON THE APPEAL ISN'T EXPECTED UNTIL AFTER STEWART IS FINISHED SERVING HER PRISON SENTENCE IN MARCH.

Earnhardt Cusses Up Controversy

by: megan richmond

On Sunday, October 3rd Dale Earnhardt Jr. was nearly perfect on the race track.

Earnhardt had charged from eleventh place to first in the last five laps of the NASCAR Nextel Cup at the Talladega

Superspeedway. Earnhardt's only major slipup of the day was in victory lane when he said one of George Carlin's "Seven Words You Can Never Say On Television."

With this win, Earnhardt moved into the series lead, over Kurt Busch, by thirteen points, but the lead was now in jeopardy.

"It don't mean (explosive) right now." Is what thousands of race fans

heard when Earnhardt was asked how it felt to have won on the 2.66-mile track for the fifth time. His father, the late Dale Earnhardt, had won on the same track ten times, including his final victory in 2000.

Earnhardt was afraid of losing points because Johnny Sauter and Ron Hornaday were both fined \$10,000 and penalized twenty-five points each for saying the same word in a radio interview after the Busch series this year. The NASCAR president, Mike Helton, had warned the drivers to watch their language during on-air interviews.

NASCAR handed down the same penalty to Earnhardt as they did to Sauter

and Hornaday. This penalty took Earnhardt from a thirteen point lead over Busch to second place, twelve points behind Busch for the Nextel Cup standings.

On Sunday November 21, 2004 the final race of the Nextel Cup Series was underway. In the end, Earnhardt crossed the finish line in twenty-third place, putting him in fifth place for the overall season. The twenty-five points wouldn't make any difference in the standings.

NASCAR laid down a harsh penalty earlier this year by setting a dangerous precedent with Sauter. Now they have been forced to penalize their most popular driver. NASCAR has made their bed, now they have to lie in it.



CAUGHT IN THE ACT

by: ashley jalovicky



In mid-

November of 2003, Michael Jackson began to face allegations against himself, stating he sexually assaulted a thirteen-year old cancer stricken boy. This was the second time Jackson faced charges such as these within a

decade. A settlement of about fifteen to forty million dollars was set forth as an agreement to settle the case. However, no charges were ever filed for this case. Instead, statements of sleeping in the same room as Jackson made some controversy. Jackson saw nothing wrong with what he did for the children, but parents thought differently. After the settlement Jackson appeared on numerous television shows to better his reputation, one of which was a BBC documentary. In the broadcast he admitted to sleeping in bed with children in a nonsexual way. Again this lowered his good image of the "King of Pop". Throughout the year Jackson still faced jokes about him and young male children. In a recent song "Just Lose It" by Eminem, the rapper dresses up as Michael Jackson and has his hair catch on fire as well

with young boys jumping on his bed. These are just a few of the many harsh jokes played on the King of Pop.

Also in June of 2003 NBA star Kobe Bryant was faced with sexual assault charges after "Jane Doe" sued him for mental pain and suffering. In July of 2003 Bryant faced attack charges that could have put him in prison for a period of four years. Jane Doe's real name was finally used in court after more than a year. On September 1st, 2004 the case was dropped after the woman decided she no longer wanted to be on trial. In the future Kobe's case may be moved to Orange County, California because the woman filed a federal suit in Denver, Colorado only three weeks before the case was dropped. Another argument is that the woman had contact with other men before and after the alleged rape happened. No one is really sure when this case will settle in court, but Kobe will definitely not settle this quickly or easily.



ON A SATURDAY...

by: teri harrington

Everyone remembers Milli Vanilli back in 1989. Some witnessed the duo's tape scrambling with their eyes, but others have just seen it on VH1 now, such as, I Love the 80s. For most, it's impossible to imagine the shock these artists went through after being exposed to all of their fans. For Ashlee Simpson however, the situation became all too real.

On the night of October 14, 2004 Simpson made her debut on Saturday Night Live along with the coveted actor Jude Law. Simpson performed a few skits with Law and other regular cast members of the show before belting out the lyrics to her now infamous song "Pieces of Me". A few more skits were presented to the audience to enjoy before the moment in which no viewer will forget came to be.

Law announced Simpson's second performance, pronouncing to the crowd, "Ladies and gentlemen, once

again, Ashlee Simpson". Everyone cheered, the music started, and faces displayed looks of confusion. It seemed as if the band was playing, but different notes were coming from somewhere else. Then a voice came, as Simpson stood still with the microphone by her side, "On a Monday I am waiting..."

Simpson started skipping around as if she were an extra in the movie Footloose before running off the stage completely. She then came off stage to say good-bye along with the rest of the cast members, covering her face in embarrassment.

At first she blamed the uncomfortable moment on her band stating, "They played the wrong song", but now it has been said that her father/manager made the decision for her to lip sync because of acid reflux.

No matter what the problem was, the moment will forever remain one of the funniest & most memorable musical history for Ashlee Simpson and SNL.

What is your opinion on Ashlee Simpson?



If you're going to have a career in music you should have the ability to sing, not rely on a tape.

JOANNA STOLARZ, 12



I dislike her, and she deserved what she did. If one had real talent she wouldn't have needed to lip sync.

TIFFANY EFANTIS, 12



I think she is a fool, and that she is riding off her sisters fame.

TIMOTHY SLATTON, 12

Do you feel the charges made against Martha Stewart's case where fair to her?



Yes, she illegally traded and got what she deserved.

ERIC LOEFFLER, 12

No, she got off too easily because she was famous and that isn't right. She should be penalized as a regular citizen.



KELLY CANNER, 12

What is your opinion on the Dale Junior scandal? Do you feel he was treated fairly for what he did?



It's ridiculous, it's something he did outside of racing and shouldn't effect his point system.

ADAM KILGORE, 12

SCANDALS IN OUR COUNTRY

ENTERTAINMENT AND POP CULTURE

What are Your Opinions on the Health Craze?

If people are medically unhealthy they should be doing diets, not random physically fit people.

REBECCA MYERS, 12

I think the health craze is a bad idea because giving up bread to eat tons of meat won't make you skinny. Especially if you don't work out, you won't lose weight. Plus I think it can only cause heart problems down the road.

DANIEL NOWACZYK, 12

Were any passing legends idols to you?

Ray Charles made me look at life and his obstacles he overcame to not only make it in his music but also in life. I think we should all learn from Ray Charles and strive to believe in ourselves and over come difficult situations in our lifetime.



SARAH SANTANA, 12

Does the Bowling For Soup song, "1985" represents the 80's well?

No, it doesn't mention the birth of the three kings Shimun Gavron, Christopher Bellini, and myself; all of whom were born in the 80's.

ALEXANDER HERNANDEZ, 12

I think it is a great representation of the 80's. It makes several satirical references to the pop culture in the 80's.



ANDREW CULP, 11

BOWLING FOR SOUP

captions by:
meredith mcleod

bruce springsteen, madonna way before nirvana there was oz and blonde and music still on mt her two kids in high school they tell her that she's uncool cuz she's still preoccupied with 19, 19, 1985 whoo-hoo (1985) whoo-hoo her they seen all the classics they know every line breakast club pretty in pink even saint elmo's fire she rocked out to when not a big limp kidik fan thought she'd get a hand on a member of duran duran where's the mini-skirt made of snake skin and what's the other guy that's singing in van halen when did reality become tv, what ever happen to telenovas, game shows (on the radio was) bruce springsteen, madonna way before nirvana there was oz and blonde and music still on mtv her two kids in high school they tell her that she's uncool cuz she's still preoccupied with 19, 19, 1985 whoo-hoo the hate lime make it stop when did metley crew become classic rock? and when did ozzy become an actor? please make this stop stop! and bring back bruce springsteen, madonna way before nirvana there was oz and blonde and music still on mtv her two kids in high school they tell her that she's uncool cuz she's still preoccupied with 1985 whoo-hoo bruce springsteen, madonna way before nirvana there was oz and blonde and music still on mtv (Whee-hoo) her two kids in high school they tell her that she's uncool cuz she's still preoccupied with 19, 19, 1985

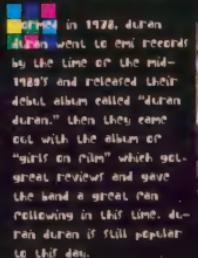


The 80's blonde was considered one of america's greatest pop bands around. in february 1980 they released "aloholic", and in 1982 they also had the single hit called "island on lost rods." they were considered one of the most influential bands of punk and the new wave movement in the early 80's.

considered one of rock music's living legend, bruce springsteen provided the world with hits since the 80's. he wrote hour albums in the 80's including the well known album "born in the usa". in jersey where he was born and grew up he was considered a "hero" and was well respected. also was very successful in the e-street band in the 80's, but in 1988 springsteen and the band called it quits and moved on.



originated from ireland, this band, oz was considered "the world's greatest rock band in the 80's". they were known for making political and social statements. their album "oz" was thought to be one of their breakthrough albums of the 80's.



Shaping-Up America With a Health Craze

by: jessica bolint

With everyone striving at a body of perfection, one man came up with a new diet. This diet set this year's health craze. The Atkins diet has changed the life of many along with other recommended fitness plans for 2004.

The well-known low-carbohydrate craze has invaded the U.S. in a storm. The way Atkins works is by reducing the amount of carbohydrates you consume in your body, you can expect to lose weight. It is considered to be the newest way to lose weight. One way to get started on

this diet, is to invest in one of the many famous Atkins diet books. Also, you could buy an Atkins starter kit sold at a number of stores, such as Walgreens.

There is also controversy with the Atkins diet. Some say it is not healthy. Two recent studies in the Annals of Internal Medicine, however, report that individuals on a low-carb diet obtain the same amount of weight loss after a year as those on more traditional low-fat diets. Dr. Donald Hensrud a weight management specialist of Mayo Clinic said that the calorie intake

is the "bottom line". Cutting carbohydrates won't make a difference unless the calorie intake is also controlled. An individual's health is also at risk.

"Health care professionals fear bone loss, muscle breakdown and kidney disease, as a result of low-carb diet induced ketosis," reports Ann Saul Dudrick of the Tribune Review.

Atkins has even come out with a line of food products, which are sold in various stores. With this, many other companies have been inspired to also make food with less carbohydrates,

so that they're sales would stay up with this change in everyone's dieting habits. The ice-cream company of Ben & Jerry's invented a low-carb ice-cream, so that ice-cream lovers who are on the Atkins diet can still eat their product. Some other Atkins inspired products include: low-carb fruits, cheesecake, flour, pizza, pasta, chocolate, cereal, and beer. Fast food has even fallen into this craze. Subway has been a big advertiser for Atkins, with the new Atkins friendly sub. A total of 586 low-carb products hit the shelves this year.

"It's more convenient for me to eat the food I want while I'm on this diet." Stated senior Ashley Vargas.

New ways of slimming your weight down pop up every year, each a variation of a technique of the previous year. One way that has become exceptionally popular is balance training. This is when an individual does a traditional exercise, such as squats, while standing on a balancing device. In this exercise you concentrate on your core or midsection. It is said to help improve performance in any physical activity. Also, Pilates and yoga are still widely used.

The Passing of Legends

by: krisan cieszkiewicz

As each school year passes, so do the familiar faces of actors, musicians, and former leaders. Although they have passed, their legacies live on through their foundation, music, movies, or some other imprint they have left on our culture.

The 40th President of the United States, Ronald Reagan, served in the White House from 1981-1989. Reagan passed away on June 4th from pneumonia at the age of 93 and suffered from Alzheimer's disease since the mid 90's.

According to CNN.com, his son, Michael Reagan, says, "I pray that as America reflects on the passing of my dad, they will remember a man of integrity, conviction and good humor that changed America and the world for the better. He would modestly say the credit goes to others, but I believe the credit is his."

He set the economic and cultural tone of the 1980's, reining the Republican Party into a conservative revolution.

Rick James, the man who established the "punk-funk" style of the eighties, died at age 56 on August 6th. Although it was said that James died of natural causes, a coroner found nine drugs in his system, including cocaine and methamphetamine. The drugs found in his system were determined to not be at life threatening levels.

Rick James reached the level of stardom in the early eighties, when he released his single "Superfreak" in 1981. His album "Street Songs" reached the number one spot on the R&B charts and number 3 on the pop charts. "Superfreak" was his biggest hit.

Julia Carolyn McWilliams Child died on August 17 in her sleep at the age of 91. She was the first woman inducted into the Hall of Fame of America's Hall of Fame. Julia Child became a household name after

her cooking show, "The French Chef." Along with her television career and her famous cookbooks, she was also the first public television personality to win an Emmy.

Superman star, Christopher Reeve, suffered a cardiac arrest and died at a hospital on October 10th. His family was with him as he passed.

He was paralyzed from the neck down after being thrown from a horse in 1995. Soon after he became an advocate for spinal cord injury research.

Reeve says, as per CNN, "I refuse to allow a disability to determine how I live my life. I don't mean to be reckless, but setting a goal that seems a bit daunting actually is very helpful toward recovery."

The Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation was started to fund research to develop treatments and cure for paralysis caused by spinal cord injury and other central nervous system disorders. The foundation is continuing Reeve's vision.

Ray Charles, nicknamed "the Genius," passed away at age 73 on June 10th because of liver failure. Charles was blind from glaucoma since the age of 6. He won 12 Grammy Awards and always had a passion for music.

Cited by CNN.com Charles says, "...I was born with music inside me. That's the only explanation I know of. Music was one of my parts...like my blood. It was a force already with me when I arrived on the scene. It was a necessity for me, like food or water."

Other famous people who have passed away this year include: Janet Leigh, the actress best known for her role in "Psycho"; comedian Rodney Dangerfield, actor Marlon Brando, cosmetics queen Estee Lauder, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, and O.P.B., rapper, Russell Jones.



Mini Mag





The word sport, in one-way or another, was born in ancient Greece when, as many know, competitions were held to determine the best man in the way of strength.

Medals, money, and other prizes were handed out to ones who excelled after the grueling competitions. After all of these years, the act of awarding those who prevail has not changed much. However, when participating in a high school sport, athletes walk away with a lot more than ever expected.

A wide variety of sports are offered here at Portage High School, giving students the chance to reach their full

potential both physically and mentally. Being physically active and in good shape overall has been proven to reduce stress and can lead to living long and healthy. On the other side of the field, athletics provide most with not only strength, but also determination. When given the chance to compete, a little bit of drive should never be in short supply. The confidence some acquire helps indefinitely throughout their everyday lives.

Thus being said, the athletics here at Portage High School promote the well-being of every student and all of the coaches involved.



When it comes down to running, coach always knows best. Coach Jeff Smenyak warms up and gives advice to senior Timothy Dohner, junior Jeremy Davies, and senior Robert Bailey before a race.

While trying to stay ahead of the rest of the running pack, junior Jacob Ahlborn gives it all he has at the sectional meet. Ahlborn finished in thirteenth with a time of sixteen minutes and fifty-two seconds.



What makes you push yourself to run?



"I love to run, but the biggest motivator is to be with others who loves to run."



"I do it for my teammates, my coach, and myself. For self satisfaction at the end of a race knowing I gave it my all."



"Helping out the team and keeping myself in shape and out of trouble."



"The will to do something that not many other students are willing to do and doing well for my team and for my coaches motivates me."



After running in the Duneland Athletic Conference meet at Woodland Park, junior Brandon Campbell takes a breather while looking at the place card handed to him.



The top seven runners gather for a group shot in front of their family and friends after taking first place at sectionals. The team won the event with a total of twenty-nine points.





Before celebrating with others, seniors Timothy Dohner and Robert Bailey applaud an amazing job. The two ran together for most of the run, but then came to finish fourth and sixth.

togetherness takes team to new level

Throughout the years, it has been obvious that every season there is a great bond between all of the runners on the cross country team. They are together, practicing and working hard, from the end of each school year until late October.

"Yes, our season might seem long, but I really wish it was longer because it goes by faster, then you realize. I have such a great time with all of the guys," said senior Chris Curiel.

In his fourth year of coaching the team, Mr. Jeff Smenyak has had a large influence on each of his runners. He sets a positive example for the team and does his best to drive them into wanting to take home a win from every race.

"I have learned to be strong and confident, and that there are no shortcuts to be the best," said junior Jeremy Davies.

Smenyak has been coaching some of his runners since their sixth grade year at Fegely Middle School including senior Jason Willis, who was one of the major factors for the squad's success this season.

Subsequent to achieving overall second place at sectionals, senior Jason Willis expresses his exhaustion on the grass. Willis went on to win regionals and helped the team to a sixth place finish at their state meet.

Willis' 2004 titles include third place in the Duneland Athletic Conference, second place at Sectionals, and first place in the Regional. The Portage boys took first place in all three events. The team also conquered semi-state, overpowering Valparaiso, with a score of 73-103, but unfortunately placed sixth at the state meet with 202, coming in after two teams they had previously beaten during their regular season competitions.

"I always pushed my hardest and tried to lead the team the best I could. We did great, trying to stay together as a pack and prevailing in most of our post-season competitions," stated Willis.

The team, ranked eighth in the state throughout the majority of the season, was one of the more dominant forces, expected to outrun other area teams at each meet.

Junior Benjamin Kerezman summed up their main goal by stating, "We went into each meet with a 'loosing is not an option' attitude."

Photo by *Lori Herrington*

Fegely boys speed

togetherness

Young Talent with **High Expectations**

Story by: Samantha Neary

This cross country season has had its emotional and physical ups and downs for the inexperienced, but yet an exceptional girls' team. Having no seniors racing and still walking away with a third place finish in both sectionals and regionals along with second place at semi-state, and twelfth at state gave the team the confidence they needed for further seasons. Racing two juniors, three sophomores, and two freshmen would have been a problem for most teams in sectionals, regionals, semi-state, and state but the hard work and dedication these

runners put in paid off.

"I feel I had to step it up because we had no seniors racing in these tough races. Since there were no seniors, nobody really wanted to jump into the leadership role, so I had to be that person," said sophomore Emily Robbins.

The girls' cross country team started practicing for this season in June and did not finish their season until the end of October. Practicing six days a week with the team and then running on their own on Sundays, the girls put in an average of forty to fifty miles

a week. The fourteenth ranked Indians

worked hard to prove that they might not have the upperclassmen and experience that the other teams have, but they would not let that stop them from doing well this season.

"My performance, as of now, just finishing regionals, I have not met my goals. I am getting there. Fourteenth at regionals is something I can be proud of after sitting out for being sick. As a team, we had an abundance of talent. We have done very well this season. Everyone has a lot of depth and determination," Robbins stated.

Many injuries and illnesses were faced during this season, some of which were serious, and some that ice and rest would heal. Everyone getting sick and injured put a slight setback on the team, but they were not

going to let these disappointments put a damper on the rest of their season.

"I hurt my thigh this season, but I continued to run on it, but then I got bronchitis. I had to sit out for a week because of the bronchitis towards the end of the season which really set me back," junior Katie Wilk, stated.

The dedication, effort, and time these runners put into cross country will pay off. The girls will train all throughout the winter and spring for next years season to give their sophomore team more experience.

"I think that it is awesome that the team and program has improved so much under Coach Heimburg and Coach White, and that having all underclassmen is such a huge advantage for us since we can still be strong and make a huge impact on other teams in the next coming years," sophomore Theresa Calagu commented.

The team ended with a dual meet record of 6-1 this season. The girls placed third in both regionals and sectionals. They raced hard beating their Chesterton rivals for second place at semi-state. Twelfth place was an accomplishment for the team. Even though only underclassmen raced during sectionals, four of the girls placed in the top fifteen. Two of the underclassmen placed in the top fifteen at regionals. The 2004 cross season was an overall success.

"I am very proud of the team. They all raced their hardest all year long and it showed. Hopefully we will place better at state next year since all of our girls are returning," sophomore Sophia Coleman stated.

Even though the girls did not place as well as they wanted to at state, they still did exceptionally well for their season. With the top seven runners returning next year, they will hopefully continue their excellence in cross country.



As a team, the Portage pack quickly races ahead of their competitors to the front of the race. The Indians placed second at the semi-state meet with help of their hard work.



Bio On Cross Country Star

Kristen Myers
grade: Junior

Running Inspiration: The rest of my team is my inspiration

Running Career: This was my first year running cross country.

Favorite Movie: How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days

Plans after high school: I plan on attending college but I don't know which one yet and to continue running.

Fondest Moment: Getting second at semi-state and beating Chesterton



Exhausted freshman Melinda Misch is running extremely hard to keep up with her opponents during the Duneland Athletic Conference meet. Misch contributed to the third place finish.



In front of two competitors, junior Christina Blackwell strives to keep ahead even though she is exhausted. Blackwell's work paid off and went on to place twentieth at state.



With anticipation, the team lines up on the starting line and awaits for the starting gun at the sectional meet. The team was able to outdo their competitors to finish in third place.



At the Duneland Athletic Conference meet, the Portage girls come off from the starting line strong. Running in a pack helps to encourage the team to go faster.

In full stride, freshman Lisa Sampiawski gives her all to finish the final stretch of the sectional meet strong. Sampiawski helped the team finish in third.



Struggling for Success

Looking to the new year, a lot of expectations came along with a fresh new starting line up. With such an extravagant and dominating 03-04 year, nothing but high hopes and demands were expected from the 04-05 classes. "Our season had its ups and downs. We started off awesome and then things got a little rough. Eventually we brought ourselves back up to end the season with pride," exclaimed senior linebacker

Andrew Dranchak.

With the season leading to a monumental upset, some of the peers and bystanders of the team believe that this year's group of elite athletes didn't pull things together very adequately.

Since success would be defined as the achievement of something desired, planned, or attempted, what's to say that these athletes weren't

successful with the achievement of their own personal triumphs? "As a senior, this year I tried to be a leader to the rest of the team. I wanted everyone to be able to look to me for inspiration. Personally, I tried to become the best football player I could be," stated

Mr. Football John Dallas Hesseltine.

With a long anticipated chance in the spotlight, many younger boys stepped up to find their deserved places on the field as well as their potential within.

"There is no way to explain the admirable job junior Eric Tharp had done replacing one of the best centers ever, Darrel Hobgood.

He immediately learned all of the formations required and immediately took on all of the responsibilities. He has become a distinguished leader and many of the players followed by his example," explained offensive live coach Robert Kania.

Pulling it all together in the end, the team finished their tedious season with an outstanding comeback.

Fans everywhere came together for the crucial game versus the Merrillville Pirates to give all their support. The final score of this traumatic game ended up being 44-38, a terrible disappointment for all the players after a triple overtime.

So with all the expectations held for this outstanding season, we can only wait to see what the future holds for the quality of the 05-06 football team.

Story and photos by Katherine Batiste



When quarterback Jacob Huston looks to his team mates, the offensive line gets set and ready for the play to begin. Steady and on guard, the line prepares to protect their quarterback.



After making the tackle, Portage players look to see where the ball lies. As the players look on hopefully, it's crucial to see whether the opposing team made the first down or not.





Huddled together, the offensive team listens to Coach Craig Buzza as he instructs the players. Quarterback Jacob Huston makes sure to take careful notes so he knows what's expected.



Before the game, junior Christopher Longo stands with teammate Erik Rhein as he gets his hand taped up. Most athletes are involved in numerous sports, so they must take care of all previous injuries they've required.



In a down position, juniors Phillip Wright and Christopher Longo get set, closely watching their man. On defense, the athletes anticipate the moment the ball is snapped into play.



As senior Alfredo Sanchez looks onto his team mates, he waits and prepares for the moment his is needed. Patiently, he watches as senior Robert Leib and sophomore Anthony Bohling do their jobs.



Practice Makes for a *Promising Future*

Story by: Hannah McKee

When fall begins every year, players around the state prepare for their first football game. For Portage High School, the last games have come and gone, and the players have either dwelled over the teams they succumbed to, rejoiced about the ones they dominated over, or more importantly, thought about the lessons they have learned.

The freshmen and junior varsity years of football are the most important as they help prepare the members

For the years to come as well as teach them how to work as a team. Just as in the past, this year was no different.

"We stress success...and want to win every game we play, but the main goal every year is to teach our players how to play in the Portage system," said freshmen head coach Jay Hodges.

The freshmen practiced everyday after school, except for Thursdays because of their games. The practices, although not quite as long as the varsity team's, required the players to run and work hard which in the long run will help them stay conditioned and keep them up to speed when they are thrown into the mix of the different ages of players. Their determination, as well as their knowledge of the plays, will help all of the members of this freshmen team be prepared for the years to come.

"The plays are basically the same and we learned to play together," said freshman quarterback Vance Johnston, when asked how he felt his first year of high school football prepared him for the next season.

Although the freshmen started their season at 1-2, they strived to do their best and didn't lose a game after the third one and ended their record at a strong 7-2. Many agreed there were a number of highs and lows, but one highlight stood out as being the best part of the entire season.

"The best part would have to have been winning conference," said freshman Albert Evans.

The junior varsity team practiced with varsity so they could learn to work together as a group and to help make the players stronger physically, mentally, and emotionally. All of the effort that the junior varsity players put in with the team will help them for next year, as many of them will play on varsity.

"I got a lot of playing time and it (junior varsity) helped make me better," said sophomore Steven Juszczak.

The junior varsity team finished the season with a 5-4 record and did their best in each and every game. Their season was a success as they learned that team work was most important and that made all of it better for some players.

"(The season went) decently as we came together as a team," said junior Chris Carnery.

Because of all of their effort and the practicing the players have gone through, they have grown as individuals as well as a team. Next year will hopefully be an amazing year for the players of both of these teams as well as for the new crop of students coming in.

Who is your favorite Pro Player?



"Joey Harrington because he is on the best team in the NFL. He will be one of the best quarterbacks..."

William Ball, Freshman

"Donovan McNabb because he's so big but he's one of the better quarterbacks in the league."



Andrew Pearman, Sophomore

"Brett Favre because...he has played many great games in his life."

Eric Wilk, Freshman



Photo by Hannah McKee

Filled with exhaustion, a group of junior varsity players run off the field after a play in the game. Rest is an important part of football as a player needs all of the energy he can get.



Set in his position, sophomore Avery Pearman is ready to play. Pearman was a part of the defense for the Indians' junior varsity team that helped to stop many teams from scoring.



Photo by Hannah McKee



Photo by Hannah McKee



The freshmen Indians, including quarterback Vance Johnston and offensive lineman Eric Wilk, try to move down the field. The freshmen Indians averaged just under 22 points a game.

As the team takes a break at halftime in the Michigan City game, freshman Stevan Marjanov takes a moment to reflect. At this point, the Indians were beating the Wolves.



After a play in the Michigan City game, a group of freshmen, including Kenneth Evans shown here, speaks to one of their coaches. The team went on to beat the Wolves, 20-6.

The junior varsity Indians get set to stop Valparaiso from moving down the field. The defense, shown here, did the best that they could to stop the other team from scoring.



At a pregame practice, sophomore James Battrell prepares himself for the upcoming game. He works on techniques and strategies to ensure another victory.



A Season of Change

Story by: Amanda Glogik

This year Portage boy soccer finally retired their well-known uniforms. Thanks to a generous donation from Mayor Olson the team was able to begin their season with a new look and a bolder presence.

"I like the new uniforms because they are lighter and more comfortable than last years," stated sophomore Mike Disney. As this was the first year for the team's new uniforms it was also their last year playing at Willowcreek Middle School's Trumble Field. The teams gladly welcomes the idea and looks forward to playing on the soon to be AstroTurf football field, which should be finished in time for the next season.

"It was good to go out with a win while playing our last game at Trumble Field and hopefully the new turf will increase our speed of play," commented Junior Brendan Mulroe.

Along with changes the team faced this year there was another aspect unique to this year. Freshmen, Kiyoshi Kobayashi from Japan began his first year as high school student in the United States and senior, Vinicius Vasconcelos, better known as Vini, an exchange student from Brazil brought a new touch to the game.

With a few moments left till game time, sophomore Dave Gutierrez and juniors Radley Alcantara and Jordan Tuthill, take a short rest before running out to the field for another exciting game.



"The practices are very different from back home, but soccer is an international language that can be used anywhere in the world," remarked senior Vasconcelos.

Although both Kobayashi and Vasconcelos came across differences playing in the States, both admit they have learned form the other boys on the team and in return taught them. Whether it was introducing Vasconcelos to the wonders of the s'more at a soccer team beach party or learning about the Japanese culture, this season is one that will be remembered.

"I learned to speak better English and I made many new friends," added Kobayashi about his first year playing American soccer here at PHS.

The boys ended their season 13-6 and sadly lost their third sectional game to long time rival, Valparaiso. All and all it was a good season, and as in every sport, full of ups and downs. From the awkward bus rides home after a loss, to the spirited dance parties and singing on the bus after a victory, or the pasta dinners before a game, this group of boys worked together to make their season its best. They made Portage proud with every game they played.



Q & A

Kristopher Evans (Ev)

Varsity Soccer



Sweeper/ Stopper (#8)

Q How long have you been playing soccer and what other teams have you played on?
A I've been playing 9 years and I have also played for NWI United 87 Portage NW.

Q Do you play any other sports and which do you prefer?
A I also play basketball, but I enjoy playing soccer more than basketball.

Q What do you plan on doing after school?
A I plan on becoming an architect; I would like to attend Notre Dame or Ball State.

Q If you could have one super power what would it be?
A I would have super speed because I need to be so many places at once and I need to go from place to place fast.



With a well-practiced play at hand, sophomore Johnathan Lopez dribbles the ball down the soccer field. Lopez successfully allowed Portage to score one more point in this game.



With many accomplished seasons behind them, the seniors say their goodbyes at the annual Senior Night. Senior Dan Biby, along with others, happily accept small gifts of appreciation.



While rushing down the field, teammates and opponents move out of the way as junior Jared Engel flies after the ball. Full of momentum Engel makes his way down with amazing speed.

In attempt to fend off a competitor freshman Lauren Hodges sprints in a neck and neck competition against one of Hobart's girls. Hodges has been involved in soccer for many years throughout her life.



In a fight for control sophomore Samantha Labno fights to trap the ball. Labno was one of the few sophomores on the varsity team.



Soccer Star: Tasha Sever



Q What do you feel is the best part of being a member of the soccer team?
A I have been able to meet so many girls and make a ton of new friends.

Q What goals did you set as a team this season?
A We wanted to win the Duneland Athletic Conference, sectionals, and regionals.

Q Does the team have any traditions you perform prior to games?
A We do passes, thigh and chest volleys 5 vs. 2, and take shots before each game.

Q What do you believe was the biggest challenge for the team this season?
A Our biggest challenge was that we were a young team and knowing everyone expected us to lose.



After taking a hit from an opponent freshman Kristen Knuth lies on the field in pain. Knuth's bad knee was an injury from prior into the season.



While gaining possession and trapping the ball in mid air sophomore Amanda Klinger gains possession. Klinger is also a member of the tennis team.

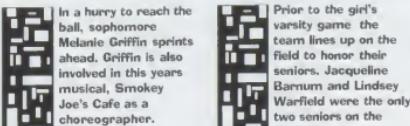




In the midst of the girl's senior night festivities Senior Lindsey Warfield is escorted onto the field. Warfield was given a crown which expressed the team's gratitude towards her hard work



In a hurry to reach the ball, sophomore Melanie Griffin sprints ahead. Griffin is also involved in this year's musical, Smokey Joe's Cafe as a choreographer.



Prior to the girl's varsity game the team lines up on the field to honor their seniors. Jacqueline Barnum and Lindsey Warfield were the only two seniors on the team this season.

Beating the Odds

Ending their season with a record of 4-8-1 for junior varsity and 9-8-2 for varsity the girl's

soccer team has undoubtedly had a tough season. Though the girls

have been faced with somewhat of an upward struggle, in the end it has only verified how strong and devoted this team truly is.

A new coaching staff was one of the

adjustments the team had to make right off the bat. The varsity team was now under the jurisdiction of husband and wife duo Aaron and Aimee Rhamer.

Junior varsity was once again, led by former coach, Leslee Kretz.

"The new coaches this year were a huge improvement, opposed to our coaches in the years past. They were much more strict with us, and I

think their coaching techniques helped us immensely. They pushed us hard throughout our season because they knew we had potential," explains sophomore Megan Rodriguez.

Another bump in the road these girls had to endure was going from a team almost completely made up of experienced seniors to a team with a total of only two, Lindsey Warfield and Jacqueline Barnum. The majority of the team this season consisted of underclassmen.

The new coaches quickly whipped the girls, old and new, into shape. Their season began early into the summer and continued on throughout late October. To aid the girls in preparing for the season to come two days were held a few weeks prior to final cuts being made.

"Once our season began practices were held five times a week. We worked on various drills such as first touches, passes, and

sprints. We conditioned all the time," stated sophomore Melanie Griffin.

Season games may not have always gone as the team had planned, but for the majority of the year the girls were able to pull through with a victory.

The first few games seemed to be the roughest part of the season, and after that everybody began to mesh together completely.

"During our first few games it was difficult to play together because not all of us were used to each other on and off the field. After spending a large amount of our time together throughout the season we became closer to one and other and performed much better, even if our season didn't go as well as we had hoped. We all learned from the all the other girls on the team,"

explains freshman Carmyn Leverit.

Towards the later part of the season it became evident that the girls luck was changing. The team's goal of winning two games in a row was finally met; they won their last two games of the season against Merrillville and Hobart.

With high spirits the varsity girls went up against LaPorte in the first round of sectionals. The team defeated LaPorte with a score of three to zero. Two days later the varsity team then faced Chesterton in the second round of sectionals. Unfortunately the girls fell a bit short and lost to Chesterton in a close match that ended in double overtime.

This year's season has undeniably been a roller coaster of ups and downs. In the end it has become evident that these girls are extremely committed to their sport and stick with it through thick and thin.

At one of their many practices, junior Christina Stewart drives the ball. As part of the varsity team, Stewart went to practices two weeks longer than the J.V. Team.

After teeing off at the sectional match in Valparaiso, senior Kari Campbell concentrates on her ball to see where it lands. This was Campbell's fourth year on the team.



The girls listen intently while the Valparaiso coach John Knauff explains the rules and regulations of the sectional match in Valparaiso. The team placed third at the match.

Photo by Deanne Snider



Photo by Andrew Culpepper

On the third hole of the sectional match at the Valparaiso Country Club, junior Lisa Whitworth sets her ball as she gets ready to tee off. Whitworth went on to make par on the hole.





Despite New Assistant

coach, girls golf team

Finishes Seventh

Story by: Andrew Culp

Finishing the 2004-2005 season with a record of 12-4 and 3-4 in the DAC, the girls Varsity/JV Golf team's final rank was 7th in the region.

Even so, the girls put in plenty of hard work practicing for their matches. Practices began on July 30th and went through the end of August. The girls on the varsity team practiced two weeks longer than the JV girls. During the summer, practices took place at Robbinhurst from 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. During school, practices were from 3:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.

New to the team this year is what Coach Tom Milakovic referred to as a welcome addition to the staff, Jeff Smith, who acted as the assistant coach to the team.

"I enjoyed working with the girls in their golf skills," said Smith. "The girls were a lot of fun to be around and worked hard on their golf game."

The fun that the girls partook in extended well past the practices and matches. One member of the team came up with the idea of getting the team together for a special breakfast.

There was also fun at get-togethers like a haunted bonfire at the coach's house. "My best memory was definitely the haunted house at coach's house," said sophomore Cecelia Martinez. "Lisa Whitworth, Jennifer

Hyde, and I went back to coach's house to go to the bathroom. On the way back, the girls jumped out at us and scared us so bad. It was a very fun night."

Even with all the fun and games, there were still a few bad memories.

"The feeling of Karl Campbell expecting to go to state and lost by a stroke was the worst feeling, especially for Karl," says junior Christina Stewart.

Not all the girls had bunches of fun, though. Junior Rianne Doherty thought that being on the team was a waste of time. She had plenty of negative things to say about the team.

"I put a lot into it and didn't get anything out of it," Doherty says. "The coach never played me. One day, he told me I was playing in a match, but then said someone else was going in my position. Then, he got mad because I went home." With a final rank of 7 and an all around record of 12-4, the 2004-2005 girls Golf Team feels confident about their performance. Coach Milakovic feels as though the team played up to their ability, often exceeding it. With the addition of Smith as Assistant Coach, the girls' skills were tested during their practices. With plenty of good memories about the season, a fun and enjoyable time was had by all on the girls golf team.

**What made
you decide
to take up
golf?**



"My grandpa plays golf and I really admired my grandpa."

- Sand flies as junior Lauren Ruzga attempts to get her ball out of the bunker of the second hole during the sectional match. This was Ruzga's third year on the team.



Teamwork is the Strength of the team

Story by: Erico Rodriguez

This season, Portage Boys Tennis Team did an excellent job. They were 7-5 and 3-4 this season in DAC. It was the 3rd best record out of the rest of the Duneland teams as opposed to last season when they placed last. This season, the tennis team was lead by co-captains Jose Collazo and Marc Jones.

This tennis season was the last one at Portage High School for top varsity players: Jose Collazo, Marc Jones, Eli Collazo, Matt Engel, Kevin Dixon, and Kris Enstrom.

"We're all seniors and we have been playing since we were young. We all know each other really well. This is the best season we have had," said Eli.

Two strong competitors have emerged from this season, Collazo and Jones. Collazo and Jones first teamed up during their sophomore season. However, the pair did not play together last year. Collazo teamed up with his brother Jose Collazo. The pair did not do as well at doubles. So this season Collazo and Jones were reunited.



Photo by: Erico Rodriguez

In anticipation for the game to start, Coaches Mr. Kramer and Mr. and Mrs. George, wait on the curb. Unfortunately, they lost to Valparaiso with the score of 3-2.



Photo by: Erico Rodriguez

Head held high, senior David Larson puts his hard practice to use as he served the ball.

Practice is an important way to enhance your tennis skills and techniques.

Eyes concentrating forward, senior Kris Enstrom focuses on the tennis ball, waiting to score a point. Enstrom was part of the varsity team this season.



Photo by: Erico Rodriguez



Before a tennis match against Andrean, junior Brent Cook shakes hands with the opposing team members. Cook has been on the tennis team since his freshman year.

With great hand-eye coordination senior Kevin Dixon hits the ball over the net hoping for a winning point. Hand-eye coordination is an important skill in tennis, as in any sport.



Photo by Leslie Hall



Eyes focused on the ball, senior Matt Helpingstine aims for the ball. Helpingstine tries to score a point in the sectionals against Valparaiso.

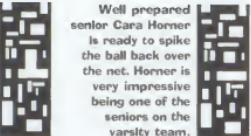
Ready with anticipation, senior Marc Jones is waiting to hit the ball. Jones, like Cook, has been playing since his freshman year.



Photo by Leslie Hall

Right before a match the team takes a few seconds to chat and pump one another up.

Strong friendships are formed between the girls on the team to prepare them for the game.



Well prepared senior Cara Horner is ready to spike the ball back over the net. Horner is very impressive being one of the seniors on the varsity team.



Second *Servings* for Girls Volleyball *Story by Kimberly Redden*

The girls Varsity volleyball team has had a tough but a respectful year. There have been small mistakes made that have shown a difference in their scores. These mistakes have improved their game by learning from their experiences.

"The team has done very well this year despite the record, yet we have not lived up to our full potential," stated senior Nicole Catlin.

The team has been putting overtime in at practices, adding a full hour more then in the previous years. Practices are now held from three o'clock to six o'clock P.M., Monday through Friday. On Saturdays nine o'clock am to eleven o'clock am. The practices have also been more focused on

perfecting their technique so when it comes to playing an actual game the girls have all the tools to win.

"This year the team has improved greatly due to the practices we have had which are tougher and more involved, we also have been working on a lot of technique this year." Junior Danielle Leimbach explained.

The team was pretty confident going into sectionals, and believed they were more than capable to do very well there.

"This year we truly believed we could take it all the way at sectionals, but I still feel we did fairly well."

Catlin said.

The team won two out of three sectional games, which is a pretty nice achievement.

The team is using themselves as their learning tool in how to better their playing skills. Before taking on a team for a second time they all gather to watch the taped game before, so they can see their own mistakes. This is beneficial because the girls will

know what to do next time they play the team again.

Another strategy they are trying is to move up JV players to varsity. The thought behind this move is simple; adding new players to the mix will liven and freshen the team. It will also just be something new to try. They are hoping that the younger girls will make the difference that is necessary for the sectional games.

Important.

The Varsity team has held its own with a record

of 16-19 and DAC 6-8. The JV team has done an

amazing job with a record of 24-2, the freshmen

team also did very well with a record of 14-10.

"I think the freshmen's season went

Another factor helping the ladies is, there are a larger number of seniors this year, which means more experienced players for the team. They also have a solid group of girls working together, which helps when it comes to teamwork. Volleyball is a sport where working with one another is very extremely well. We worked hard and everyone improved rapidly, we won games and we lost them, but we had fun through it all," stated freshman Holly Perrelli.

Aside from records all three teams have learned this year something very important by admitting when errors were made. Positive things can come from this and also by being humble because they can improve on what they need to by doing this. The girls have done great with this in game vs. teams they have already had matches with; they were more prepared to serve up a great score the second time around. There is a great outlook for next year's season.



In the air, preparing for the ball to come her way, sophomore Annalisa Turner sets up for a spike. Before the game, each member of the volleyball team practices to strengthen their skill.

Why do you enjoy playing volleyball



"I love volleyball because you make good friends, it is a fun sport to play and besides it is a great workout."

Danielle Leimbach, junior



A quick response is necessary for volleyball. Senior Amy Slamkowski goes up quickly to set the ball. Slamkowski is a dominant and important player on the court.



While demonstrating team work, Junior Varsity members work hard to save the ball from falling. Teamwork is an essential skill in order to play volleyball.

Ready for any play that may come their way, seniors Nicole Catlin and Ashley Smith stand in position. This year the team has focused a lot of their time on perfecting technique.











Making A Statement...

The Portage wrestling program will forever be infamous in many aspects. Anyone who knows anything about wrestling knows that there is much hard work and

dedication that goes into becoming one of Portage's elite wrestlers. These boys

realize that they possess something commonly strived for, an unfathomable reputation of being the greatest.

The greatest meaning a group of young men who have dominated a sport with thirteen consecutive DAC titles. No program has ever done that, in any sport, at any school, in either gender, ever.

"The dual meet victories and state championships are nice, but what's more important is that the boys are learning to take their effort and dedication into the real world," said head coach Edward Pendoski.

Proving their element of success, seven of the varsity wrestlers made it to individual state. Although not all of the superior athletes on the wrestling team went to individual state, the team as a whole won all the titles leading up to team state where they qualified.

So after all these years of

impeccable records and reputations, what happens next when the men who started it all decide to retire? After eleven years of coaching for Portage, head coach Edward Pendoski and coach Larry Tharp have taken the opportunity to retire from the wrestling program. Pendoski received a prestigious offer to establish a wrestling academy in Indianapolis called CIA, Central Indiana Academy of Wrestling. This will allow Pendoski the chance to instruct many young and impressionable athletes on how to grow and develop into the distinctive wrestlers we have come to see within our own Portage community.

As a last good-bye, Pendoski left his wrestlers with some final words to lead them into their seasons to come. "It is much more difficult to leave than I thought it would be. We've spent a lot of time in The Room. We say that every one of us in there has laughed, cried, bled, and worked until our bodies could do no more. I will always remember the time spent in Portage and the kids that have come through The Room and I am thankful that I got to be a part of such a great experience."

Story and Pictures by Catherine Bates



Steadily pressuring his man, senior Bradley Kemp attempts to get his opponent's shoulder on the mat. Kemp, as well as all bystanders, knows that once in this position it's all over for the other guy.



An attempt to flip his opponent over onto his back, senior Alfredo Sanchez continues to push down on his head. Forcing his man's head down will help Sanchez gain control of the match.





While junior Adam Walters struggles to keep his composure over his opponent, the pain becomes strikingly apparent on his face. After a strenuous match, Walters takes home the victory to give the opponent his first and only loss.



As junior Erik Rhein continues to wear out his opponent, he slowly lets him back up. Not even concerned with the one point he gave away, Rhein ends up taking the match with his opponent eventually forfeiting.



As an attempt to gain more points, sophomore Joshua Young stands up and tries to escape from his opponent's grip. Getting out from this position will give Young one point, which could be vital in a close match.

How do you feel about the coaches leaving after this season?



"I'm just disappointed that the coaches won't be there for my senior year. They've done so much for me that it'll be hard to adapt to new coaches in just one year."

Ched Biddle, junior

"It's definitely going to be different next season, but I'm happy for Coach P. We'll all miss him, but we're glad that he's taking the great opportunity that he is, because he deserves it."

Matthew Hamdy, junior

"I'm going to miss the coaches because they taught all of us so much about wrestling, as well as life. They'll always be a part of Portage wrestling."

Andrea Magone, junior

"We're so used to the way things have always been done, next year will be so different. I just hope that we get new coaches who understand the Portage wrestling program."

Steven Jusko, sophomore





Out-of-Bounds



Neutral Position



Defer Choice



Reversal



Near-Fall



Awarding Points
Left/Right Hand



With being one of the youngest wrestlers on the varsity team, sophomore Ryan Vottero certainly is not one of the least experienced.

With time to spare, Vottero takes a quick glance towards his coaches to receive some advice and instructions.

After wrestling for a strenuous amount of time, senior Daniel Zemlik pressures his opponent down on the mat so he can take a moment to breathe. Finishing the season with a knee injury, Zemlik ended up taking second at state.

As senior John Hesselkine holds his opponent against the mat, he looks up at the clock to check out the seconds remaining. After putting the opponent in his signature move, a spladle, he quickly pins him for a victory.

Slowly pacing around his opponent, senior Anthony "A-Train" Espinoza waits for the moment he can take a shot at his man. In the heavier weight classes, the opportunity to take a shot is rare. When an athlete does have an opening to take one, he must take full advantage of it.

As an attempt to snap his opponent down, senior Michael Leucuta steadily pressures his man to the mat to gain the advantage. As a senior wrestling Varsity since his freshmen year, Leucuta received a second place at the state championship for his senior year.



Stalemate



Stalling Left/Right Hand



Caution - False Start or Incorrect Starting Position



Potentially Dangerous Left/Right Hand



Illegal Hold or Unnecessary Roughness



Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Nothing Like

Gymnastics and

Friendship

This year the girls' gymnastics team had some high points as well as some low points. But, through it all, they had a lot of fun.

"It is really fun and I get a lot of exercise doing it. It gives me something to do after school that I enjoy," stated sophomore

Cassie Cain.

Throughout the season the girls built a strong friendship. Many of the girls came to the team knowing each other and others didn't know each other before the season started but they all became very close.

"I enjoyed spending time with the team and getting to know the new girls," said junior Alycia Laboy.

Laboy.

The girls also became very close with their coaches throughout the season. They all said their coaches were always there for them anytime they needed someone to talk to.

Jessica Metz stated, "My most memorable moment is T-Ping the coaches houses."

The girls also had many things that inspired them to do gymnastics. They all had people that influenced them.

"I have been in it since I was five and I wasn't going to give up on it when I got to high school," stated Cassie Cain.

All the girls on the team have been doing gymnastics for many years and love every minute of it.

Story by: Alycia Laboy

Photos by Alycia Laboy and



It always feels good after an event to get compliments from team members.

Junior Ashley Sandlin is congratulating her teammate on a job well done after her amazing performance.

It takes a lot of determination and concentration in gymnastics. Freshman Sarah Rosser is concentrating on her balance beam routine which is one of the most difficult events.

Photo by Alycia Laboy

Photo by Alycia Laboy

Photo by Alycia Laboy



Gymnastics Star: Alycia Laboy

Q What is your most memorable moment while in gymnastics?
A I think every moment is memorable with us and you never know what's going to happen.

Q Do you have any role models that you look up to in gymnastics?
A All the coaches I've ever had in gymnastics have been my role models.

Q Why did you want to be on the gymnastics team?
A Gymnastics has always been part of my life... I can't get rid of it, nor do I want to.

Q What is your favorite part of gymnastics?
A Spending time with friends and teammates and being able to excel in something that I enjoy.



Photo by **Sophomore Natalie**

Gymnastics is a sport that requires a lot of durability. Junior Jessica Metz is showing the ability of durability needed for the uneven bars.

When on the balance beam poise is everything in gymnastics. Sophomore Laura Zack shows the skill needed to perform well on the beam.



Photo by **Sophomore Natalie**



Photo by **Sophomore Natalie**

The uneven bars is a very difficult event in gymnastics because you must have good strength in your arms and be flexible. Junior Alison Horner shows the much needed concentration and strength needed to perform a flawless performance on the uneven bars.

After getting control of the puck, freshman Clint Konchar tries to bring the puck around to his teammates. With the speed that the boys skate at, it can sometimes be very hard for them to keep their balance.



Photo by Ryan Richmond

It is very important to keep your eyes on the puck so that you know where it is at all times.

Sophomore Mack Wozniak tries to get to the other end of the rink while keeping the puck in his sight.

As his coach kneels over him, freshman Ryan Richmond tries to fight off the tears after being hit hard in the chest during one of his games. Many players had sustained a variety of injuries over the course of the season.



Photo by Ryan Richmond



Photo by Ryan Richmond

Bio On A Hockey Star

Joshua Farley

Grade: Senior

Age: 18

Number: 22

Position: Left defense and the team captain

Favorite Movie: Slap Shot

Ice Hockey Hero: Bobby Orr

Hobbies: Drumming, sleeping, and playing poker

Motto: If you can't slap it, snap it

Plans After High School: Take a year off and then hopefully go to Michigan University

President Moment: Being chosen to play on the Portage Ice Hockey team my freshman year



Who inspires you to play Ice Hockey?



"I just saw it on T.V. and I thought that it would be fun to play so when the opportunity came, I jumped at the chance to play."

Guden Becker, Freshman

"No one really inspired me to play ice hockey. I saw other people playing and then my friends got me interested in it."

Christopher [Nick] Crowder, Freshman



"I was tired of playing roller hockey and Joshua Farley was trying to get an ice hockey team together, so I just jumped at the opportunity to play."

John Fischer, Freshman



Photo by: Megan Richwood

Portage Indians Are Back On The Ice

After a year in hiatus The Portage Ice Hockey Club is back in action. Senior, Joshua Farley is the one responsible for getting the team back together. After months of determination, Farley finally acquired the team that he wanted.

Farley spent much of his free time at Camelot Bowling Alley refereeing some of the roller hockey games that went on there. During that time Farley had the idea to try to get some of the roller hockey kids to play on the ice. After the team fell apart two years ago Farley's main goal was to try to get the team back for his senior year.

"I really wanted to be able to play ice hockey my senior year." Stated

Farley. "I was really excited when we finally had enough players to play and no one backed out like they did last year."

During Farley's junior year they almost had a team, but there were just too many problems to get it off the ground. The first problem came up when they couldn't decide what rink to play at and then the

Valparaiso ice hockey team wanted some of the Portage's players. By the time the season was ready to start, they only had nine people on the roster and because of the lack of players they were not allowed to play.

Now, after all of

Farley's hard work, the Portage Ice Hockey Club has a team. The team consists of seventeen boys from Hobart, River Forest, Clay, Valparaiso,

and of course, Portage. These boys may be from different schools, but they have come together to become the best team that they can be.

After everything that the team has been through over the years, one can only hope that the organization continues. The school gives no support to the team what so ever. Everyone on the team pay about \$1500 dollars a year. Their coach, Mitch Frankowski, even says "you pay you play."

The boys even have to provide their own transportation out to South Bend every week for practice and games.

"You would think that all of it would be worth it, but no one even knows that Portage has a team."

"It really stinks that my friends don't know that we have a team, let alone that I am on it," says freshman Alex Proper. "My friends want to come to the games, but when they find out that it is in South Bend they don't want to because of the drive."

Despite the lack of support the boys have grown and will hopefully have a better season next year. The organization can now only hope to become as good as the team was its last year before it folded.

"I just really hope that they can get back into the swing of things and be as good as they were my sophomore year." Says Farley. We had the best team my sophomore year and I really just hope that they can pull together and start winning again."



Photo by: Megan Richwood

After the referee puts the puck into play, sophomore Austin Konchar hits it away from one of Marlon's team members during one of the face-offs. Konchar is one of three centers on the Portage Ice Hockey team.

The goalie has to be sure to watch what everyone on the ice is doing while defending the net. Sophomore Tyler Spoolstra follows the puck behind the net while it is passed off to our team captain.

As the sectional meet is about to begin, sophomores, Jessica Davidson and Hollie Piers, wait for their turn to practice. Before the meets teammates warm up together in the water.

Girls Swimming and Diving Make Splash. Supporting Team

Despite the injuries, strenuous practices, and physical exertion, the girls of the Portage High School Swimming and Diving team, pulled together and became a true team. After a rigorous season, the girls still came out pleased on the accomplishments and goals that they had achieved.

"The goals this season that we had, were for pretty much everyone to get along, everyone to go to practice when they could, us to have good times, and to just have fun," states freshman, Emily Brennan.

Not only did the girls become a close team, but the team truly felt supported by their coaches as well. As the season progressed they truly began to bond.

Michelle Arnold exclaims, "Coach Rushing is the best diving coach there is! Don't let anyone tell you different. He's got his good and bad days, but so do I. We joke around though, and it really makes my day!"

There are many factors that have driven the team this season, one of them being a motivational quote that kept them going through the rough times. "Our favorite quote this season was 'The doors of success swing on the hinges

of determination. Why do we do it? Because it works! Why? Because it works! WHY? Because it works!' because one morning a boys basketball coach was saying it very seriously and we all found it hysterical," recalls Junior, Natalie Kovachevich. For the girls to come together they had to overcome their differences and focus on the main goal of working to the best of their abilities and becoming a family. This lesson was learned in past years among the swimmers of previous seasons.

"Though our record was not great our teamwork was. We all had... respect for each other, which was shown through cooperation and willing to undergo difficult tasks. We actually had a team this year compared to past seasons. There was no drama and the girls bonded well. We all worked so well and kept each other motivated each day. I love my team; it was a very rewarding season," concurs Senior, Tiare Parker.

The team pulled through and set their priorities straight, putting their teammates first over winning. Despite their record, the season was truly a success.

A group of swimmers converse as they count laps for their teammates. It is customary for the girls to cheer for their athletes while they are competing relentlessly in the water.





Anxiously awaiting the results of the race, sophomores, Ashley Wood and Melissa Padio, sit pool side. Awaiting the results can be a trying and pain staking task that no swimmer likes.



To make it into the next meet, Amanda Klinger, sophomore, tries her hardest to make good time. In order to qualify for DAC the girls must place high enough to get in.



As the competition comes to a start, Danielle Richardson, sophomore, prepares herself before her dive. Endurance and spunk are essential when it comes down to the final second.

Before the meet, sophomore Theresa Caluag warms up in the water. Rigorous practice and team work are what has strengthened the team so much this during this season.

At what point did you realize how close you were becoming?

"It was when I was walking into the E.R. and seeing the tears in Natalie's eyes and the rest of the swim team after Natalie's car wreck. That was the point when I realized how close we were."



At the Crown Point meet, sophomore Michael Sobierajski sits and watches the races. While they are not participating, the swimmers and divers watch their teammates swim.

As he stands in the water, senior Eric Mundt takes a moment to prepare mentally for his next swim. Composure and focus are two main elements to swimming success.



Photo by Jennifer Hwang



After his dive, freshman Edward Arteaga takes a look at his score. It takes hard work, total dedication as well as complete determination to be an excellent diver.

While one of their teammate's race, junior Christopher Allmandinger and sophomore Sean Toomey, cheer. It is customary for the team to encourage their teammates.



Several years of a legacy comes to an end

Story by Hannah McLo

After countless years of instructing his beloved swimming team and instilling lifelong lessons in its members, Mr. Ralph Mundt is quitting his position of coach. The swimmers who have been with him for several years as well as the newer swimmers will always remember his ability to help them through thick and thin.

"[He was] supportive, but sometimes seemed a bit mean. But, I know in the end [he] was just trying to improve me," said sophomore Edward Giordano.

Portage's swimming regime is rare in that the coaches who lead these young individuals are really there for their swimmers and part of this is because of Coach Mundt's strong dedication to his team. He acts not only as their coach but as their companion as well as that is what draws attention to the team.

"Coming into this school, I expected to be pushed a lot harder and beyond and I was right. My coach last year was, and still is a good coach, but not with a good program like Portage who has to be one of the best programs in the region," stated junior Justin Herd who transferred to Portage just this year.

This season was just like its predecessors for the swimmers and divers, with its share of ups and downs. The team seemed to have the same feeling as to what their most memorable moments were as well as their challenges.

"Practice [was hard], but I think the hardest thing was learning how to swim fast and how to keep on fighting," said sophomore Asa Reid.

Although the record was not great, the swimmers put forth a great effort and should be commended for their achievements because they truly did their best.

Swimming Star: Jacob Anderson



Q What is your age?
A 17

Q What events do you participate in?
A The 100 fly and the 200 free.

Q What are your plans for after high school?
A I want to attend Purdue University and possibly swim there.

Q What else are you involved in?
A The Portage Porpoises

Q What are your goals for next season?
A To break the school record in the 100 fly and qualify for state.



Photo by Amanda Brant

— Completely focused on his race, sophomore Jordan Bailey swims with success. It is important for each swimmer to be concentrated on their races while swimming.

— Before the beginning of his race, junior Radley Alcantara perfects his stroke by practicing. Practice is an essential element to swimming as it helps each swimmer achieve his goals.



Photo by Amanda Brant

After a time-out, the girls are ready for a brilliant play to be brought forth. The Indians have all had their own role in the games throughout the season. Each player was vital to success.



Aware of her teammates around her, senior Amy Samplawski waits to make the perfect pass. Samplawski has played basketball for the Indians since freshman year.



Heather Markwell

Age: 18
Grade: Senior
Position: 3 Guard
Funny song: Give it all
Rise Again
Favorite Movie:
Requiem for a dream

Plans after high school: After high school I'd like to be a radiographer.

Proudest Moment: When I was thirteen years old my AAU team won state. I



Above the three point line, freshman Lisa Samplawski looks for an open teammate. Samplawski has made a tremendous effort for the Indians. She will be a vital player next season.



With intense exhilaration, senior Nicole Catlin drives to the basket. The senior has played basketball for PHS since freshman year. Catlin is a great element to the team this year.





After a pass from one of her teammates, sophomore Kacey Kornacki looks for an open shot. Kornacki has played for the Indians for several years along with teammates from middle school.



Ball in hand, senior Tracy Markwell shoots with authority. Practice makes perfect when Markwell scores the Indians an easy basket. Markwell also plays with her twin Heather Markwell on the team.

Ready to drive through the lane, freshman Gloria Hernandez makes sure to pick the perfect spot. Hernandez was chosen to play on the varsity team this year.

Dribbling the ball to make a shot is something that freshman Amy Czupryns excels at. She says her skills were acquired from playing basketball her whole life.



A free throw was awarded to senior Olivia Leggett when she was knocked down to the ground by an opposing team member. The girls are like a family and circle in fear as a member is hurt.



No, they are not doing jumping jacks! Freshman Brittany Buzea and sophomore Kacey Kornacki are all trying to retrieve control of the ball.



An unjust push was just the thing, freshmen Brittany Buzea, needed to earn her a free shot at the net. Look at the air born star show off her talent.

It's hard to keep your eye on the ball while your being blocked just ask freshman Kim Aimone. She loves the thrill of the game.



What Inspired you to be on the basketball team?



Ever since I was little I loved playing sports. I started playing basketball when I was six years old. Basketball is a sport that just became something natural to me.



My friends really inspired me to play basketball. I have also known the coaches for quite some time so that was also a factor. Basketball is something I really enjoy.



spirits are high with the power of girls

This year our girls might not have come out on top of the charts, but that's not what matters to them. They have made friends with new people and that's what they care about.

"We may have a losing season but we are still a family," stated freshman Ashleigh Janiga. The teams have stayed very close.

Being so close is what keeps the teams going through the wins and losses. One of the most memorable wins for the freshman was the second time they played Chesterton for the second time.

"My favorite game was probably when we played Chesterton for the second time," stated whole freshman team.

Unfortunately the team still lost. It was tough for the girls. "We tried so hard," stated Gloria Hernandez. The Junior Varsity team

finished the season with a decent overall record. The freshman finished with a record of five wins and twelve loses.

"You never know how hard it is till you've tried it," freshman Kim Aimone still wants everyone to know.

Even with their losing season the team still keep up their hopes by attending practices and keeping close with other teammates. Each and every girl know that it takes team work to win a game. Not only do the girls give it all in their games, they also train vigorously at their practices.

"We do drills conditioning plays reviewing and occasionally a lot of running," freshman Jamie Kasper said.

This was a great year for our girls. Most of the girls are planning there return to the team next year for another great season and next year will be even better!



As sophomore Sam Labno goes for the lay up she keeps her eyes on the net. An anxious teammate watches from the bench in awe.

It is hard to be the shortest girl on the team but her teammates do not mind nor does freshman Felicia Williamson. Here she is shooting the first basket of the game.

Better luck next time ground

This year the coaches worked hard to get their team up to stance. With practices going five days a week and occasionally on Saturday, one could say this team was ready.

As the season panned out the Portage Indians found it was harder than they thought to keep an unbeatable record intact.

"Our season wasn't that great. We didn't win as many games as expected and we lost a lot of close game," stated senior Jake Bryan.

Despite some of the struggle in the beginning of the year, around the last five games of the season the team started coming together, winning, and playing as one.

This helped them get into sectionals. They played their best in the first round against Merrillville, but shot started getting missed in the second half and passes were stolen. Eventually this led the team to fall to Merrillville.

"It was a short, but sweet season. We had our good days and our bad, but when we had a

good day you would think we were the best team in the conference," explained junior, Andrew Stills.

Ending their season with a record of 9-12, it was a rough year. Hardworking players gave their hearts to the game, but to some it didn't seem to pay off. Leading point scorer Buster Battreal had an average of 15.8 points this season.

"This year had its ups and downs. As the leading scorer, I reached a personal goal for myself and that made this year more worth while even though we didn't play our best," said senior Buster Battreal.

Coaching staff consists of Steve Bartos and Richard Kretz. Every year is different, along dealing with new players and new attitudes. This team was made up of almost all upperclassmen so it seemed they worked well together.

"All of these guys played together since they were little kids so they knew how to get things done," stated coach Bartos.



Patiently waiting to come into the game, senior Kevin Dixon, watches his teammates. When called in he plays shooting guard. He has been playing for 14 years.

Up against Merrillville, senior Anthony Leaf dribbles with skill around his opponent. Junior Andrew Repay guards his opposition, to protect the ball from being stolen.





After getting fouled Senior Buster Battrell shoots a free throw. Battrell has been playing for twelve years. Like most athletes he feels the biggest reward of playing is winning..

Speed, skill, and coordination are important characteristics of a basketball player. Senior Jake Bryan tries to keep the ball while making his way to the basket. His Merrillville opponent guards him.



Why does Ashley have alien



"The thing I do is while For each game I wear "I listen to a mix cd with all my favorite the National Anthem is black socks. I've been songs on it to get me playing, I always pray doing it all year. They pumped and ready to for us to play well and play."



Silence fills the gym and opposing fans are chanting taunts. Senior Jake Bryan sets up to shoot a free throw, but is use to the pressure. Bryan has been playing for twelve years.

The game is on and the stakes are high. Varsity team members watch their game being played. There are eleven players on the varsity team.

Strength through Perseverance Determination through Willpower

This year the junior varsity and freshmen boys basketball players grew very close together even though they didn't have the best of seasons. They put their best efforts forth and sometimes that wasn't enough.

"I was very happy when I found out I made the team," replied Andy Farmer. "I like to stay in shape when I play basketball."

There are many moments in the sport of basketball that are more memorable than others. Some moments throughout the season stood out more than

others.

"My most memorable moment is when we went to 5 overtimes with Merrillville during freshmen year," replied Farmer.

It takes a lot of dedication and strong will to play basketball. Some people don't know how much hard work and determination it takes to be on the team.

"I've been playing for about 10 years since I was 5 or 6 and never stopped," said Andrew Coban.

Many people that play basketball have different skills that they

enjoy in the sport of basketball. Some players like just dribbling the ball. Others like shooting free throws. Some like the playoffs the best.

Coban said, "Being competitive is my favorite part of playing basketball."

"My favorite part of playing basketball is the competition," replied Andy Farmer.

"My favorite part is getting to know more people, and hanging out with the team. Practices are fun to," said sophomore Eric Speer.

Many things inspire the players to be on the basketball team.

Some people have famous people that inspire them or just ordinary people.

"I have played since I was 6. I always use to love going to the park watching the older kids play," said Eric Speer.

Throughout the season the players made many friendships and had fun working together to be a team. They made many new friends and had many new experiences together.

Sports by: *Nikita Memmolo*



Photo by: *Jessica Belote*



Photo by: *Jessica Belote*

Free throw shots can sometimes be game winning points. Here is Andy Farmer is taking a shot at the foul line.

Games can make you stressed out when things don't go your way.

Sophomore Larry Long is feeling stressed because his team is not doing that well.



Photo by Jennifer Higginbotham

The freshman boys taking a breather from the game as the opposing team is shooting free throws and anticipating to get the rebound. You rarely get chances for breathers in basketball.

Players are constantly being guarded in basketball. Sophomore Eric Ramian is looking for someone to pass the ball to.



Photo by Jennifer Higginbotham

Rio On B-ball Star Andrew Stills

Age: 16

Grade: Junior

Number on Team: 44

Position: Forward

B-ball heroes: "Dr. J"

Favorites Foods: pizza

Favorites Singer: Lil Wyte

Favorites Movie: Eurotrip and Dude, Where's My Car

Proudest Moment: Every game we win



Photo by Jennifer Higginbotham

Players must maintain a strong defense as well as a strong defense. The JV team is trying to get the ball to the opposite end to score points to win the game and move to the playoffs.

Boys Junior Varsity and Freshman Basketball

LB Team Squad

With LB Team Heart

Even though the B team Porter County Unified Indians didn't win any games, they shared a lot of experiences that they will remember for a lifetime.

The reason that they didn't win any games was because two of the games were against A teams, and they are only a B team.

But they didn't seem to care about the losses, as junior Aaron Beers remarked, "Our record is 0-3, but we really are better than our record shows."

Of course, all of the team members had different reasons for joining, but all seemed to share in common the love of the game and the compassion and the devotion to want to help others.

When Larry Long was asked why he decided to join the team he said, "I decided to join the team because I like playing basketball and I like knowing that I'm helping others."

All of the members said that they all have gained something from joining the team, and that they all have enjoyed the experiences.

"One of the most rewarding factors is knowing that I get to be a part of their team and help them achieve their goals and become better athletes," said freshman Stephan Marjanov.

Throughout their journey all of the players learned something valuable, that with a lot of love and friendship they can change another life for the better.



While getting ready for the game, sophomores Carl Ussery and Jason Epsom get ready to throw around the ball. Taking a few practice shots can make all the difference.



When waiting to catch a rebound, the most important thing to do is to get ready to jump. Junior Aaron Beers is ready to leap, even though the shot that he took was nothing but net.



Photo by Lori Herringan

Bio on a B-Ball Star

Rachel Reed

Grade: 11

Age: 17

Team: Porter County Unified Indians

Motto: If you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always gotten.

Favorite Movie: The Notebook and Wicker Park

Favorite Artist: Songs John Mayer and Country Crooner - "How Bad do you Want It" by Tim McGraw and "Women With You" Kenny Chesney

Hobbies: Hanging out with friends, playing on my computer, playing softball, listening to music, taking pictures, and sleeping.





Photo by Lori Hergenhan

As gazing on to the game with much anticipation, sophomore Larry Long and coach Ms. Tami Hudson hope for the win. Watching and waiting they all hope for the best.



Photo by Lori Hergenhan

With much determination freshman Josh Hudson takes the shot, being successful in his goal. Taking risky shots is sometimes how one makes the points rise in the game.

Why is it a good idea to have a team devoted to special needs kids?



I think that it is a great idea to have a team for special needs kids. It lets them have the same opportunities.

I think that having this team is great. It helps the kids do better in doing activities in life.



Photo by Lori Hergenhan

Coaches have a hard job to do. It takes endurance, patience and determination. Coach Ms. Tami Hudson is training the team for their next quarter of the game, ready to win.



When keeping track of the other players, sophomore Jason Epsom follows them with fortitude. Not taking one's eyes off of the other players is an excellent skill to encompass.

It is important in bowling to aim at the right pins for the perfect strike. Senior Alison Gessert looks on as her ball rolls down the lane to get a good foul-free score.

Deliberation is the key to being a good bowler. Senior captain Robert Kroonwijk concentrates before throwing the ball, trying to get a perfect strike.



Members of the boys team, Major Beyle and De La Jean, look on as their fellow teammates bowl. Watching your team members can help others out in the long run. It is a good quality to have.



The boys coach wants to see the most strikes. He is Craig Sturman, junior Brandon Turner, senior core, Jason Peral, and assistant Craig Sturman. Watch them practice or go to their technique improvement class.

BORN TO BOWL
BRANDON TURNER

Q. What is your most memorable moment during the bowling season?
Before we went to the finals, we got into a car with a radio and started singing.

Q. Do you have any embarrassing moments for the season?
Yes, I was trying to bowl in practice and in the middle of my approach, Ben De La Jean came up and hit my ball, and it flew out!

Q. What advice would you give a new bowler?
I would tell them to just have fun. That's all, just have fun and enjoy your time.

Q. Do you look up to anyone in bowling?
I really look up to Craig Verges, Josh Charlton, and Ben De La Jean because they are really great bowlers and they inspire me to do better.





Photo by Mattie Richardson

CHAMPS AMONG US



STORY BY JESSIE RODRIGUEZ

The bowling team is relatively new to PHS. It has been a part of our school for three years. It's amazing how we, as PHS students, can walk the halls, passing members of the bowling team and not even know that there is a team at our school.

"I was really offended when I told one of my friends that we won sectionals and they didn't even know our school had a bowling team," said sophomore Lauren Hokenson. To be a good bowler, you have to be dedicated to practice. The PHS bowling team practices every Thursday at Camelot bowling center. For most of us it isn't as easy as 1-2-3 to become a good bowler. We all know practice makes perfect.

"You must be able to concentrate. Do not get mad over bad breaks and always keep your head up," stated Junior Joshua Charlson after being asked what skills it takes to become a good bowler. The

team is more than just bowling balls and pins. One needs team work and one needs to work hard together. When good bowlers join together, they bring home the gold. This year, the team made it to semi-state and the boy's team made it to state.

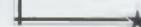
"When senior Craig Vargas was asked how it felt to make it to semi-state, he replied, "It feels great! At the beginning of the season Robbie Krooswyk and I said that we wanted to win everything this year since we are the captains."

Win, they did. This year the team won the DAC holiday tournament, the Baker tournament, and they were ranked number one in the state for over all team average. A lot of hard work and dedication went into making it this far for the team.

Over all, the bowling team did extremely well and will continue to do so with teamwork.

Photo by Mattie Richardson

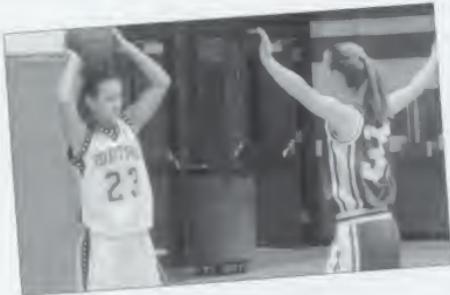
The girls take a little break to have a talk. Juniors Jessie McCreary, Jessie Conner, Jessie Smith and Freshman Kaitie McCreary, are taking time out to talk about practice and other things.











Pitching Their Way To Success

The softball team finished its season at an exceptional record of 19-10. Portage High School softball team has been

known for it's great performance and athletic ability for sometime. This year the softball team has kept their reputation

stronger than ever.

"Our season had it's ups and downs, but us girls stuck together and

played as a great team this year." Stated junior Colleen Scott.

The softball team mates this year have worked together and worked very well with one another this year. They all feel that their season

went very well, however each team member had a personal goal that they wanted to meet.

"For my own personal goal, I should have become more confident in myself and to be a starter for the team." proclaimed junior Ashley Norman.

The members of the softball team found their peers to be very helpful to them in the long run and also helped them to feel more confident in themselves.

"A prominent leader of the team was senior Amy Samplawski. She may

boss or demand people sometimes, but she has more want and respect for us girls than anyone else does."

Stated Scott.

All in all the team played hard and did an exceptional job for their season of 2005.

Photo By: Meredith McLeod



Photo By: Meredith McLeod

Before the game against the Crown Point Bulldogs, senior Jessica Riffett practices with her fellow team mates. Riffett has been involved in softball her whole high school career.



Each member of the softball team is extremely important. Senior Tracy Markwell pitches to the other team showing her great skills in the game of softball.



Photo By: Meredith McLeod



Photo By: Meredith McLeod

Before the game took place for the day against the Crown Point Bulldogs, the team hits junior Samantha Meints hands to prepare her for the play ahead.



When ever the team makes a good shot, the members get together to congratulate the play that was made. The team comes together to high five each other for their team work.



Did anyone inspire you to play softball?



Cassie
Gould,
8



Karen
Rodriguez,
8

I have played softball since I was six years old. My mother convinced me that I would enjoy doing something physical.

No one truly really inspired me to play softball. I just wanted to play on my own because softball was a personal interest to me.



Photo By: Eric Rodriguez



Photo By: Meredith McLeod



Photo By: Meredith McLeod

When junior Samantha Meints prepares for the play to come her way, she readily sets up for the ball. Meints has been involved in softball since her she was a freshman.



Before the game for the day, sophomore Samantha Griffith prepares with the team. Griffith played the catcher before the game to practice with her teammates.



A little time out to practice is just what senior Milton Rivera is taking time out to do. Waiting to for his turn, he practices his swing off to the side of the player up to bat.

The key essential to baseball is a perfect pitch. Senior Zachary Bohling pitches the ball to the opposing team hoping that it looks good for the Portage Indians.



Baseball team Pitches rough season: Hoping for the Best Next Year

Story and photos by Jasmine Rodriguez

Unity, said by more than one baseball player, is what it takes to be a good team.

"It takes team unity. You don't really have to like whom you are playing with, but you should respect them. Trust is something that teams need in order to be a team. If you don't trust your teammates to make the play, they probably won't trust you to execute," said by senior Zachary Bohling.

This season may not have gone as well as the boys would have liked it to go, but they stuck together to the end and made it. What they were lacking was team unity.

"I think that we could have done a lot better. We need to be more of a team. Our season wasn't that good because we weren't playing together," said by Junior Mark Dietz after being asked how he felt about this season's progress.

The boys are good and they will make it. They looked up from their difficult times and remembered all the good times they have had this season.

"Hanging out with rest of the players is the best part of being on the team," said senior Robbie Krooswyk.

Baseball Star

Jeffery Disney

age: 17

Fav. baseball player:
Roger Clemens

Favorite T.V. show:
Sports Center

Favorite Movie:
Amityville Horror

Most memorable moment this season:
First good game was at Twin Lake.

Plans after High School:
To go to college and play baseball.





The team watches anxiously from the dug out as it is Portage's time to bat against the M.C. Wolves. Paying attention to your team mates will help you to learn from others mistakes.



Players Senior Marc Jones and Junior Michael Burke take a walk out onto the field to greet their team mates. They are excited that Portage has just scored some points!

Coaches are always there to look out for the best of their players. Coach Pirowski stands on the side to watch the Portage Indians as they strive toward their goal to come out on top.



No team can be complete without an umpire to catch those not so perfect hits. Senior Andrew Dranchak is down and ready for the ball if it comes his way.

As the other team
watches on,
sophomore Andrew
Bustos swings his bat
with full power in
hopes of hitting the
ball. Power is very
important to batting.

Ready to run,
freshman Lucas
Manoski leads off first
while he carefully
watches the pitcher.
The runners must
always be aware of
where the ball is.



Before the start of the
next inning, the junior
varsity players crowd
around to listen to
their coach speak.
Every player needs the
encouragement of his
coach to play his best.



Good Beginnings *mean* *Great Endings*

Every year, the junior varsity and freshman baseball teams play their season while also preparing the players for the years to come and this year was no different. The

coaches as well as the players know that every second played helps to ensure the quality of the teams to come.

"Our season went well because it was a

learning experience and our team had a lot of fun and doing it," said junior Erik

Rhein.

The freshman and JV baseball teams play on the same schedule as the varsity team which gives them the opportunity to play the same individuals throughout high school. These

two teams also get a chance to learn how to work together with the other players on their team which helps them to further their success.

"Freshman and junior varsity seasons are preparation because we learn to work together with the same guys before going to varsity," said sophomore Thomas Bewley.

At the end of the year, the junior varsity and freshman baseball teams have developed in their skill and have learned to work together as a team. Their learning experiences at these levels will help stay with them throughout their high school years as baseball players.

Story by: Kenneth Mays

What is the best part about baseball?

"The best part about baseball is just getting to play and learning more about the sport."

Matthew Henny, junior

Several freshmen baseball players sit on the bench and watch as their teammates play on the field. The players are encouraged to cheer on their fellow players by their coaches.

As he waits for the pitch to be thrown, freshman Darrell Anderson gets in his catcher's position. A catcher must always be ready to take on whatever may come their way.



Balance and concentration are two big parts of stunting. Freshman Stephanie Bowman shows both as she does an arabesque during full time out.



The tiniest girls on the team are automatically flyers. Lib lines are a simple pyramid that looks hard and is easy to do. All smiles the girls cheer for the Varsity boys basketball team.



photo by Kelley Jarecky



In the opening of every basketball game the school song is played.

It's a ritual of cheerleaders and pom-poms to joyfully dance along. All are in sync throughout the entire dance.



While walking enthusiastically the cheerleaders bring smiles to onlookers. Every year they cheer for our football team in hopes of winning the homecoming title.



photo by Kelley Jarecky





Everybody do that

Big Red Rumble.

Everybody... Rumble

Story by: Ashley Jelavich

If someone were to ask the Portage cheerleaders why they decided to join the team, majority would have to say it is because of the friendships they earn and the fun that they have. In mid spring of 2004 around twenty-five girls made the team, from then to mid January only around sixteen or seventeen girls were left remaining. With about half of the team being either freshmen or new to the team in general things seem to be a little different than the years before.

Aside from competitions, games are one of the best parts of the cheerleading experience. "Cheering for the games and competing is definitely the best part of cheerleading," stated sophomore Victoria Skubish.

Excitement and smiles are a must to keep the crowds interested. Even in the frigid cold the cheerleaders merrily waltz their way onto the track to cheer for our football team.

In September the cheerleaders and pom-pom girls made up a routine together and performed at the pep rally. Many were shocked for the simple fact that cheerleaders and pom-poms don't usually get along, but the girls always seem to do something that turns heads.

Always seem to do something that turns heads. They have a definite shock value when performing.

During Christmas break Varsity went to Nationals and unfortunately placed last. A major disappointment for the girls, they continue to finish the year as if nothing happened. Many of the girls try to ignore the fact that they didn't place because they don't want to feel humiliated. In the words of Jay-Z, "Go and brush your shoulder off."

Through thick and thin the girls and their coaches stood by each other one hundred percent after the devastating loss. Friendship is a key word in having a good team. Just ask sophomore Stephanie Phipps for instance; after asking her what she'll remember the most after the year ends she replied by stating,

"I will remember all of the fun times I had with my friends, especially on the bus trips."

Games are just one more time for the cheerleaders to get together and have fun with one another. After the year is finished and the seniors have graduated more girls will be recruited for the opportunity to share the cheerleading experience all over again.

Cheerleading Star: Trisha Sabocik



Mega phones and loud voices are needed when Portage plays against Merrillville. Freshman Amy Blakely and sophomore Victoria Skubish show examples of both.

Dance moves, tumbling abilities, and smiles, what more could one ask for? The girls show all of their talents off at the homecoming pep rally held this past fall.



Q What is one competition you will always remember and why?

A I will always remember NCA Nationals when I was a freshman. We had a strong and very mature team.

Q Looking back at the end of the year, what's one thing you will remember the most?

A The friendship I had with most of the older cheerleaders will continue to be missed, but always remembered.

Q Being a senior do you feel the younger girls look up to you as a role model?

A Yes, I think they do look up to me. It makes me feel great to know how much they appreciate me. I hope that they have learned as much from me as I did from the seniors that helped me in the past.

While performing her solo, junior Kali Gibson prepares to execute a triple piroette. Gibson danced to the theme song from "Tarzan," "You'll Be In My Heart."

Prior to beginning of their hip-hop routine, the girls pose and anticipate the start of the music. The team competed in the division one hip-hop category.



Photo by: Jessica Hodges



Photo by: Jessica Hodges

Perfecting Old Talent while Developing New

Story by: Jessica Hodges

Each year, the pom team competes in numerous competitions and works extremely hard to develop their talents. This year has been no exception.

The girls began their season with tryouts that were held in the latter part of March and from then on the team practiced each week developing their talents and preparing for the competition season that lay before them. The girls went to nine different competitions this season and on average placed between second and third.

In order to train for their rigorous year the girls practiced regularly on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 3:00-6:00. The team learned the dances early in the year and persistently practiced them to get ready for competition season, which extended from December throughout the beginning of March.

"In order to prepare for each competition we constantly review our routines and change things to improve them," explains freshman Wendy Windsor.

With each competition they attended the team strived to become superior in both the division-two pom category and the division-one funk category. Aiding the team in the inspiration aspect of poms is also an extremely important task to fulfill.

Particularly with the first year girls on the squad it is necessary for someone to give them guidance, make them feel confident, and show them enthusiasm—a motivational leader.

"I believe the leaders of the team this year have been the captains. They have taught the younger members new skills and answered everyone's questions," states captain Stephanie Tanis.

On average the team primarily consists of

underclassmen. Though some may consider this fact to be a hindrance the team pulls together each season and executes both routines with as much talent and skill as they possibly can.

To prepare many of the underclassmen for the ability the varsity squad must possess a junior varsity squad was assembled. The team was established to train the younger girls to execute the technique necessary to become a member of the varsity squad.

Junior varsity practiced two to three times a week from 3:00 to 6:00 as the varsity did. The team performed the school song at a number of football games, and became more and more involved in sports activities as the year progressed. The girls were able to present their routines to the student body during half time of many of the boys and girls basketball games. The team also performed sidelines prior to the games and were able to demonstrate their routines during the pep rally along with varsity earlier on into the year.

The junior varsity girls attended a camp towards the beginning of the season, along with the varsity girls. This camp was where the junior varsity learned the routines they performed during school events. To perfect their dances the team practiced diligently each week. Though the girls did not compete they all worked exceptionally hard to improve and advance their skills.

In the end both teams once again had successful seasons. Thanks to hard work and dedication the girls were once more able to impress spectators and judges alike.



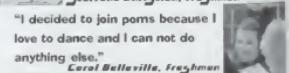
Photo by: Jessica Hodges

Why Did You decide to join the Team?



"I joined the team because I had been dancing for seven years and I wanted to be more involved with school."

Steffanie Christian, Freshman



"I decided to join poms because I love to dance and I can not do anything else."

Carol Belleville, Freshman



"I had been in cheerleading ever since I was four years old and I wanted to try something new."

Felicia Vucko, Sophomore



Before performing their ensemble, freshman Stefanie Christian, sophomore Lauren Faulk, and junior Stephanie Tanis hold their starting formation. The girls performed their routine in the small ensemble competition.

As freshman Rachel Ybarra performs in the junior solo competition, she completes a lay out and surprises the spectators. Ybarra also dances at Ton's Dance Academy along with a few other teammates on the team.



Photo By: Jessica Hedges



Photo By: Jessica Hedges



Photo By: Jessica Hedges

After completing their pom routine, the team poses and awaits for the applause from the crowd. The girls competed their pom routine in the division - two pom category.

In mid of performing a sideline routine, junior Sarah Gomez smiles to the crowd. Gomez was nominated lieutenant of the varsity squad this year.

Whilst running during a competition, senior Michael Kirk pushes himself to be the best runner he can. Kirk's relay team went to State and ran the sixth fastest time in school history.



The 2004-2005 Boys Track team poses together for a team picture. The team this year broke several records and had several amazing athletes. This year, several boys went to State.

While taking part in the long jump, senior Steven Hojnacki flies through the air to receive an excellent distance. A great deal of leg strength is required to be able to jump the length needed.



Boys Track Finishes With Excellent Athletes and Broken Records

Story and Pictures by: Andrew Culp

This year's Boys Track team was filled with broken records and excellent talent. Many athletes were State finalists this year. Seniors Joshua Whalen, Antoine Brown, Stephen Sweat, John Rooney, Timothy Dohner, Michael Kirk, juniors Justin Smith, Benjamin Kerezman, James Flannery, Nathan Smith, sophomores Joshua Marsh, Kyle Lamping, and freshman Joseph Efantini were all State finalists.

The team of Joshua Whalen, Antoine Brown, Joshua Marsh, and Justin Smith broke a 23-year school record in the 4 x 100 Relay. The team of Stephen Sweat, Kyle Lamping, Joshua Whalen, and Justin Smith also set a new school record in the 4 x 400 Relay.

According to Head Coach John Kappes, the Most Valuable Player was Joshua Whalen. During the regular season, he scored more team points than any other athlete in school history.

"Arguably the best all-around track athlete in school history," says Kappes, "Josh's performances rank him among Portage's all-time best in the 300 Hurdles, 100 and 200 Dashes, and the 4 x 100 and 4 x 400 Relays."

The final record of the team this year was 5-2, placing first in Portage Relays, third in the DAC, first in Sectional, and fourth in regional. The team ended this season a mere six points shy of a perfect record.



Competing in the pole vault event takes balance and agility. Junior David Tomaszewski pushes himself into air during a track meet in mid-April.



A great deal of strength and force is required to be able to throw the shot put. Junior Michael Suthers is in mid-stride here as he takes part in the shot put competition.

After collapsing during a relay run, junior Justin Smith winces in pain as the coach tries to stretch his muscle. Smith was back on his feet in no time, and limped on his leg for the rest of the meet.

When the girls track team competed at the sectionals junior Alicia Robinson ran in her teams relay. This year Robinson was a dominant member for the track team.



Track Star: Leah Bearss

Q What is it that you enjoy the most of Track?

A I enjoyed all my teammates the most and they all became really good friends of mine.

Q How do you feel knowing that your fellow team mates find you to be a leader?

A I feel that it is an honor to be looked upon by such amazing girls.

Q How long have you been involved in track?

A I have been involved with track ever since the sixth grade.

Q Do you have any embarrassing moments that happened to you during track?

A Um...too many to remember. I am very clumsy!

Q & A



Each member that is involved in the long jump, can always be a difficult and trying sporting event. Sophomore Gloria Hernandez lands on her two feet during her event of the long jump.



When the girls track team played against Cheshireton at the sectionals on May 17th, junior Kristin Mendez jumps over the vault. That day Mendez performed with great talent.





Since a young age, sophomore Lisa Samplawski has been an active athlete. She runs with her track team mates and runs in a relay for one of the track teams first meet of the season.

At the Sectionals on Tuesday, May 17th the girls track team did exceptionally well as a team. Sophomore Kasey Bryan ran her best that day to her best ability for the meet.



Leading the Girls In Sprints

Story by: Meredith McLeod

For some track teams, the players usually consider themselves to be a one-man team. This year, the girls track team bonded together to find themselves successful in the way that they ran for the year of 2005. Before the season started in the spring, the girls came together to readily prepare themselves for the season ahead. Many prominent leaders showed signs of leadership in the team this year.

"To me senior Leah Bearss was a leader who usually took charge. She was always there for everyone on the team and also lead the team when we would run," stated freshman Christine Hernandez.

With the team having one another to lead each other in their running abilities, many of the girls this year broke the school record, showing off the great talents that each team member gave to the team.

"I think that all the girls tried very hard this year and I want to congratulate

Kristin Myers, Lisa Samplawski, Theresa Caluag and Tiffany Caluag for breaking the school record in the 4X500 team," declared freshman Melinda Misch.

Many of the girls broke their own records, while also setting very high goals for themselves, showing how much each girl cared to break their individual goal, and succeed for the team as well.

"This season I really wanted to break twelve minutes in the 3200. I was very happy that I achieved this goal," acknowledged Misch.

The girls did a wonderful job this season in breaking each of their individual goals, and also showing great leadership roles for each of the girls on the team for this year.

"The year was great and we over came our goals and made them stronger in the end. Over all the season went very well," stated sophomore Jacqueline Pagan.

Each girl this season enjoyed the season to their fullest and gave it there all.



Together twins, sophomores Theresa and Tiffany Caluag run together in high spirits to win the race. The Caluag twins work together to win the race for the team during the relay.

Girls Tennis Team

*concentrates on
Their Own Technique*

Story by Kelley Yule

Tennis has been a sport at Portage High School since the first year in 1980. The girls tennis team is a great asset to Portage High School, and has a successful year no matter the schedule or conflicts such as the field house.

"I am really looking forward to the new courts because then all of our matches will no longer be away every time." Sophomore Kathleen Hargarten addressed.

Practices were held from 3:45 until 5:00 each day unless otherwise addressed. Tennis is mostly about technique of the game rather than skill. Practices were very easy going for the girls and gave them plenty of time to work on their skills and to concentrate on upcoming matches.

"Everything can be improved for next

season. I feel that we need to work more on our techniques rather than running nine miles on a ninety degree day outside," Hargarten stated.

Although the seniors will soon be leaving the team for good, the lower classes know that they must step up in order to have another successful season next year.

"I am really going to miss Jackie next season because she's a great person and is hilarious. She helped a lot of girls get a better grip on their game," Hargarten stated one last time.

The girls are having a great outlook on the season next year. The coaching staff and members of the team will be able to help each other become more successful and have a better drive to be sure that next year,



Before the match, sophomore Kathleen Hargarten practices with a teammate. Hargarten put out a great effort this season, helping her team have a great 2005 season.

While awaiting the serve, sophomore Cecelia Martinez stands in position. Martinez is also in other activities throughout PHS including the Pow-Wow staff.





Ball in the air, sophomore Amanda Klinger serves to the other team. Klinger's mean serve has helped the Indians to many victories throughout the season this year.



Ready to hit the ball, senior Jacqueline Barnum changes her position. Barnum has been on the tennis team throughout high school. Jacqueline is also a member of the PHS soccer team.



While watching one of her teammates finish their match, senior Sarah Rogers waits with anticipation. Rogers has been on the tennis team throughout her high school career.



While taking a great step forward, sophomore Trisha Berryman hits the ball. Berryman's hit gave the Indians an easy point in a crucial meet during the season this year.

Expectations for next year *run high*

The spring of 2005 was an adventurous one for the boy's golf team, as they had their share of ups and downs

throughout the entire season. This year's golf

team was rather different as many of the golfers were either seniors or freshmen, with really no sophomores or juniors to even the playing field as well as level out the amount of

experience. And to level this out, the team needed to practice quite a bit.

"The hardest thing about this season was making practice everyday," said freshman Zachary Stoehr.

Along with the difference in familiarity that comes from having a

large group of seniors as well as a large group of freshmen is that with very few juniors and sophomores coming up, the team next year may be a very inexperienced one. However, many of the team members share no qualms about any of this. In fact, with so many seniors leaving, the underclassmen see this as a chance to move on.

"I plan on moving up to junior varsity next year and play some varsity matches," said freshman Alexander Quick.

Hopefully the team next year will be a great with the many returning juniors, sophomores and the up and coming freshmen who plan on participating.



After he hits the ball, senior Joseph Wadie watches to see where it will land. Golf is a difficult sport as each golfer needs to line up each shot correctly and hit with the right amount of power.



As a golfer hits the ball, Coach Kretz, Coach Hodges, and junior Dennis Meyers watch. The team and the coaches are always there to cheer on their teammates and encourage them.





What influenced you to play golf?



"What made me want to participate in golf was an interest in the game and a love for the sport."
Matthew Erik, junior



Before his turn comes, senior Jacob McCormick tests his swing out. It is essential for the golfer's swing to be absolutely perfect so he can receive the power he needs.



As he focuses intently, senior Randall Wilkening lines up his shot so he can be sure that it will land where it needs to. Lining up shots is an important part to golfing and must be done.



Before the meet begins, senior Jonathon Hoffmann checks out his club as he talks to a golfer from Chesterton. Golf gives a chance for people to meet others from various schools.



While the meet goes on, senior Joel Slomkowski gets ready to hit his golf ball as hard as he can. Slomkowski is just one of the many seniors on the golf team who help lead the others.









STUDENT LIFE

DESIGNED BY CO-EDITOR MEREDITH MCLEOD
WRITTEN BY CO-EDITORS KELLEY YUET AND MEREDITH
MCLEOD



At the Outstanding Young Man performance, senior boys Timothy Dohner and Adam Kilgore performed together to end the evening. The theme for Outstanding Young Man was Ray Charles, in dedication of his death just this year.

With great enthusiasm senior Steven Lehmann leads his group in the spring musical. The boys performed with great excellence to the audience each night of their performance. "Smoky Joe's Cafe" was an outstanding success for the students this year.



This year at the Air Band performance, seniors Daniel Biby and Eric Mundelated to the song "It's Raining Men" by the Weather Girls. The boys also played the part of the "Bitchin' Ballerinas" at the Variety Show.



At a crucial point in the fall play "Dracula", seniors Kyle Devaney, David Hinjosa, and Dustin Foster show off their acting talents. "Dracula" turned out to be a huge success. All three of the boys also competed in the outstanding young man competition.



FOR SEVERAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, THE CONSIDERATION OF AN EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITY IS AMONGST ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS THAT MIGHT COME TO MIND. MANY SCHOLARS FIND THAT EVENTS SUCH AS HOMECOMING OR PROM SIMPLY COMPLETE THEIR HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCE.

AFTER THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE EAST BUILDING, STUDENTS AMONGST THE HALLWAYS OF

PORAGE HIGH SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS OF A STUDENT LIFE ACTIVITY WERE MUCH DIFFERENT THEN THAT OF A STUDENT IN THE PRESENT TIME. IN THE 80'S A STUDENTS RECOLLECTIONS CONSISTENTLY LED THEM TO A FUTURE OF WHAT THEY THOUGHT WOULD BE THAT OF EXTRAORDINARY PROPORTION. STUDENTS ARE ABLE TO LAY BACK AND ENJOY THEIR HIGH SCHOOL YEARS BY PARTICIPATING IN STUDENT LIFE ACTIVITIES. MANY EVENTS THROUGHOUT HIGH SCHOOL, DEMONSTRATE THE TALENTS OF STUDENTS REGARDLESS OF AGE, GRADE, RACE OR CREEED. WHETHER STUDENTS JUST ENJOY ATTENDING THE FALL PLAY OR TAKING A TIME OUT TO CREATE AN ASTOUNDING PERFORMANCE WITH THEIR FRIENDS, STUDENT LIFE IS A MAJOR PART OF PORAGE HIGH SCHOOL.

For powder puff football, girls huddle to think of their next play. The senior girls had an overwhelming victory over the juniors. The 2005 senior team also performed a victory they junior year.

The midyear graduation was held in the east gymnasium. Senior Andrew Adair looks on to the crowd and awaits to be one of the first seniors to have his name called to officially be a graduate.



At half time, volunteer dancers performed their choreographed moves at the student faculty basketball game. Senior Ashley Jalovecky and Ms. Amanda Carlson organized the group for the game.

Players watch their team mates closely as they score a touchdown on the field. The Portage High School Indians have had an outstanding record for the 2004-2005 season.

While awaiting the big moment, seniors Trisha Sabocik, Cara Horner, Paige Roy, Kari Campbell, and Joscette Villegas talk amongst themselves. The girls were voted on by the student body.



At straight attention, seniors Charles Munsell, Steven Kowalczyk, and Eric Mays observe the football team leaving a the field. The boys added a great sense of security at the event.

Along with her father, senior Trisha Sabocik poses for the camera. Sabocik has been nominated for past events throughout her high school career. Sabocik was the first on the stage.





ANOTHER GREAT



STORY BY:
KELLEY YUOT

THIS YEAR WAS YET ANOTHER GREAT HOMECOMING WEEK. THE IDEAS PUT FORWARD FOR THE 2004/2005 HOMECOMING GAME, WEEK,

AMUSEMENT AS THE JROTC, CHEERLEADERS, FOOTBALL PLAYERS, AND MUSIC STUDENTS

SHOWED OFF THEIR MANY TALENTS.

"MY FAVORITE PART OF THE HOMECOMING PARADE WAS

DISCUSSED BEFORE WATCHING ALL MY FELLOW

STUDENTS, AND OF COURSE GETTING LOTS OF CANDY!"

SENIOR MEREDITH WHEELER ADDRESSED.

PRIOR TO THE GAME, THE ANNUAL POWDER PUFF FOOTBALL

GAME WAS HELD. THE SENIOR GIRLS TOOK A BITE OUT OF THE JUNIORS IN A GREAT VICTORY.

"NEXT YEAR THE JUNIORS WILL HAVE A GRUELING TIME TRYING TO LIVE UP TO THE SENIORS' REPUTATIONS,

ESPECIALLY AFTER WE PULVERIZED THEM!" SENIOR JENNIFER FURGE STATED.

ALL IN ALL, PHS HAD AN OVERWHELMING VICTORY OVER MICHIGAN CITY. HOPEFULLY

NEXT YEAR WE CAN HAVE YET ANOTHER GREAT AND SPECTACULAR WEEK.



Along side the track, the PHS marching Indians wait for the signal to approach the field. The Indians performed a great show to add entertainment to the game.

Offensive player senior John Rooney silently observes his team. Rooney has played on the football team throughout high school.

The half time show was outstanding this year. The marching Indians lead the way through the field playing pieces they have worked on since the beginning of the year.

After the queen was announced, seniors Cara Horner and Paige Ray give each other a hug of congratulations. Horner was announced queen for the night.



The cheerleaders were a great asset to the football games. Sophomore Stephanie Phipps stands with her teammates before the National Anthem prior to the event.

With great enthusiasm, seniors Caitlin Bartz, David Hinsojeca, Jessica Riffet and Sarah Tagurian show their spirit at the homecoming game.

The students support helped lead the Indians to a victory over Michigan City.





After the queen announcement, seniors John Hesselton and Cara Horner pose for a photo or two. Voting for homecoming queen took place during first block on the day of the game.

With deep concentration, senior Steven Kowalczyk waits to give the next command. JROTC members added a great sense of class to this year's event.



As they watch their teammates on the football team prepare for their time to play. The Indians preferred yet another defeat against Mich. City.

Ready for their big moment, seniors Kari Campbell and Josette Villegas wait patiently. The girls were accompanied to the stage by a person of their own choosing.

Prior to the game beginning, the teachers huddled together to plan their strategies. This has been the third consecutive year the teachers have defeated the students.

For the halftime performance, junior Jessica Carrasco danced as one of the student faculty cheerleaders. Teachers Mrs. Sabrina Scroggins and Ms. Amanda Carlson joined the girls in their halftime routine.



Why did you referee the game?

Andrew Repay '12



"I chose to referee because I was not allowed to play and still wanted to be involved."

With the first half behind them the teachers brought out bikes to surprise the students. A relay race took place between each class ending in a victory for the freshmen.

In midst of taking a free throw junior Alexander Sapp bends down and prepares to shoot. Sapp went on to make the shot and add a point to the score board for the students.



After a play algebra teacher Mr. Jay Hodges takes a breather as the crowd looks on in excitement. Hodges is the head football coach for the freshman team.

While making a call student referee Christopher Currl blows his whistle to stop the play. Currl also referees Portage Youth Basketball games in his spare time.



CONTINUING

the streak

THREE YEARS IN A ROW

STORY BY:
JESSICA HOPGES

PHOTOS BY:
GENEVIEVE NIMETH

Continuing their winning streak for the third year in a row the teachers pulled ahead once again, defeating the student team with a score of forty-four to forty-one. The teachers in a close struggle to gain the title of student faculty champion once more demoralized the students.

"I was glad we played well and no one was injured this year. Playing was fun and now the teachers are able to brag for another year," explains chemistry teacher Mr. Robert Kania. Introduced as a means to raise money for prom, the student faculty game was sponsored by the junior class.

The students, under the direction of junior class president Kimberly Payne,

planned, sold, and took tickets prior to the event beginning.

Coaching the students this year were varsity basketball members Anthony Leal and Kevin Dorn.

Prior to the game starting junior class member, Alexandra Stewart led the school in the singing of "The National Anthem".

Once the began. In a neck and neck competition with the hope of finally defeating the teachers the students came on strong, ready to take over the title.

All throughout the first half students and teachers battled with only a few points between them. Tensions rose as the game progressed and as points were added to the score board the competition only

grew greater.

As the humor sounded ending the second quarter the students received a surprise from the administrators who rode through the gym on bikes to introduce the halftime show.

During the break a relay race between each class took place.

The race consisted of riding a bike around the gymnasium while balancing a basketball between their legs.

The win ultimately went to the freshmen class.

After the contest the student faculty cheerleaders were introduced and performed a routine they had been developing for weeks prior to the game taking place.

Joining the students in their performance were math teacher Ms. Amanda Carlson

and family and consumer sciences teacher Mrs. Sabrina Scroggin.

The anxiety of the players and spectators was again at a high. As the time started to run out the scores grew closer.

With only seconds left and three points between the two teams the students fought for their first win against the faculty team.

Unfortunately the students were again left disappointed by the faculty members.

For the third consecutive year the faculty have managed to overcome the students by a few points and crush their spirits.

Leaving the students yearning for the faculty's winning title for another year.

In perhaps his greatest performance to date, senior David Hinckley phenomenally captured the role of the psychotic servant, Renfield. The Co-President of Thespians gratefully provided the comic relief for the dramatic show.



Appropriately enough, big brother needs little sister to help him with the simple tasks of life. Junior Jessica Belint struggles to correct senior Christopher Belint's make-up mistakes.

With all the charm and charisma that is Dracula, sophomore Sean Toomey perfectly portrayed the part of the menacing Count. Toomey was also featured in the spring musical, Smokey Joe's Cafe.





In a state of confusion, Dr. Quincy, senior Kyle Devaney, frantically jots down a few notes. *Dracula* was Devaney's debut on the Portage High School stage.

Distracted by the mysterious tale of her missing husband, junior Ashley Davis weepingly looks to the audience. Another debut performance was made this year by Davis.



A veteran to Portage High School performances, senior Kelly Canner does her own hair and make-up before the show. Canner played the role of Mrs. Fern in the play.

Overwhelmed by the peculiar sickness of her daughter Lucy, senior Mrs. Westerra, Morales, steadily finds her strength to stand with the assistance of juniors Alexandria Stewart and Sarah Mustafa.

Keeper of the deranged patient Ranfield, Grimm, played by junior Brent Cook, has to endure all circumstances. This includes a casual bite made to the shin.

As an accomplished guitar player, senior Christopher Bolint can be heard in the pit band, stealing the show with his captivating compositions. For a change of scenery, this year Bolint was featured as one of the lead roles, Johnathan Harker.

As a maid for the house, Flora, played by senior Kimberly Nelson aids in the mystery of the suspicious Count Dracula. Nelson has also been involved with the school newspaper, and has been on staff for three years.



Dracula's wives, juniors Katherine Batista and Kimberly Redden and sophomore Cassandra Janis, dance to a seductively haunting melody as a figment of Jonathan Harker's dreams.

"DEJA BOO!"

STORY BY:
TERI HARRINGTON

AFTER TEN YEARS OF ILLUMINATING THE AUDITORIUM STAGE, MR. PATRICK MOODY, ENGLISH TEACHER, DECIDED TO DESCEND BACK TO THE WAY HE KICKED OFF HIS CAREER AT PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL.

THE PRODUCTION THAT MOODY PUT ALL OF HIS DIRECTING ABILITIES TO WAS BRAM STROKER'S DRACULA, THE FIRST SHOW HE TOOK UNDER HIS WING.

THE FIRST TIME AROUND, TEN YEARS AGO, DRACULA WAS SAID TO BE LESS ORGANIZED AND PREPARED. HOWEVER, THIS YEAR THE CROWD RECEIVED THE WHOLE SHOW MUCH BETTER.

THE WAY THE SHOW PRESENTED ITSELF THROUGHOUT THE TWO NOVEMBER NIGHTS SEEMED ALMOST EFFORTLESS. EACH SCENE DISPLAYED A SMOOTH TRANSITION AND STOLE THE GLORY AWAY FROM THOSE THAT PRECEDED. THE ACCENTS OF EACH THESPIAN WERE UNIQUE. EACH THESPIAN HIMSELF, ALSO ENTERTAINED THE AUDIENCE ON BOTH NIGHTS. "I WOULD GO HOME EVERY NIGHT AND REHEARSE MY LINES, WORKING ON MY ACCENT. WE WOULD ALL

PRACTICE BACKSTAGE DURING BREAKS THAT WE HAD BETWEEN SCENES," STATED SENIOR KIMBERLY NELSON.

THE PLAY INCLUDED THE PRAWLS OF THOSE FROM GERMANY, RUSSIA AND BRITAIN. THE SOLID WORK OF THE ACTORS AND DANCERS, WHO WERE INSTRUCTED BY MOODY AND TWO STUDENT DIRECTORS, SENIORS ANDREW APAIR AND ASHLEY CRAFT, MADE THE SHOW COMPLETELY CAPTIVATING. THE FALL PLAY HAS ALWAYS BEEN PERCEIVED AS STRICTLY A DRAMA SHOW. MOODY FOUND A UNIQUE WAY TO INCORPORATE DANCE AND MUSIC WITHIN THE SHOW.

NELSON CONCLUDED WITH, "OVERALL, THE WHOLE THING WENT REALLY WELL. EVERYONE WAS ON CUE BOTH NIGHTS AND WE SHOWED UP WITH MUCH MORE THAN WHAT MOST OF THE AUDIENCE EXPECTED."

AFTERWARDS, AUDITORIUM DIRECTOR, JOE STEVEN EXPLAINED HOW GREAT THE SHOW REALLY WAS, AND THAT IT WILL SURELY BY DIFFICULT TO TOP IN FUTURE YEARS.

 "I was glad that we could incorporate music and dance within the fall play. I enjoyed dancing with all of the other "wives."

Jessica
Hodges, 11

What was your favorite part being in the fall play?

 My favorite part of the play was being able to hang out with the rest of the cast back stage between performances.

Brie
Heitrick,
12

Mysteriously, two concerning puncture wounds appear on Lucy Westenra's neck, played by senior Stevie Chaddock. Noticing this, Professor Van Helsing, senior Dustin Foster, revels in his untold tales of the legendary vampire referred to as Count Dracula.



PHOTO BY: KELLEY YUOT



With his first musical debut senior Phillip Cowger amazes the audience with his singing talents. Cowger, along with his fellow cast mates spent weeks practicing the lyrics and choreography for the different songs. Cowger also participated in the annual CYM competition here at PHS.

PHOTO BY: ERICA RODRIGUEZ



When we go shopping for clothes most people don't encounter dancing suits, but for senior Timothy Slatton the suits made it exception. This was his first performance on stage for something other than an orchestra concert. Slatton has played the cello for four years in the school orchestra.

PHOTO BY: KELLEY YUOT



This year's musical allowed many students a chance to have a solo. Freshman Timothy Thompson's solo was "Ruby Baby." Thompson sang many other songs with the boys ensemble this year and he is also concert master of the concert orchestra here at Portage High School.



SINGING AND DANCING AT

smokey joes cafe

STORY BY:
MEGAN RICHMOND

The pit for the musical may be one of the most important parts of a musical because without any music you would have nothing. Jillian Ziegler has played the piano in the musicals for the past four years and she even won the musical award, along with senior Chris Bolint at the Homecoming banquet later in the year.



PHOTO BY: MEGAN RICHMOND



PHOTO BY: MEGAN RICHMOND

What Was Your Favorite Song This Year?

"My favorite song was Baby That's Rock-N-Roll because Christopher Bolint had an awesome guitar solo in it." Kraig Kunkel, Junior

"My favorite song was "Dare" because everyone in the cast was able to get on the stage and sing together." Jacob Alborn, Junior

PHOTO BY: KELLEY YUDT



SINGING AND DANCING AT
smokey joes cafe

EACH YEAR THE PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL THESPIANS PUT ON THE ANNUAL MUSICAL IN THE PAST WE HAVE SEEN THEM PUT ON "THE KING AND I," "FOOTLOOSE," AND MANY OTHERS. EACH YEAR IT IS SOMETHING DIFFERENT AND MORE EXCITING THAN THE YEAR BEFORE, AND THIS YEAR IS NO EXCEPTION. LAST YEAR WE CAN ALL REMEMBER "CHICAGO" WHAT MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW IS THAT EVERYTHING WAS PREPARED TO HAVE "SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE" BE LAST YEAR'S MUSICAL, BUT WHEN MR. WILLIAM BODNAR FOUND OUT THAT THEY RECEIVED PERMISSION TO PERFORM "CHICAGO," THEY THEN DECIDED TO SAVE "SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE" FOR THIS YEAR'S PERFORMANCE. "SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE" IS DIFFERENT THAN ANY OTHER MUSICAL THAT HAS EVER BEEN PERFORMED HERE AT PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL. UNLIKE MOST MUSICALS, "SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE" DIDN'T HAVE A ANY

SONGS. SO IN A SENSE THERE WERE NO "MAIN" CHARACTERS. SOME STUDENTS DID HAVE MORE SONGS THAN OTHERS, BUT THIS YEAR'S MUSICAL WAS TRULY A TEAM EFFORT. THE STUDENTS ALL HAD TO WORK TOGETHER TO GET THE SONGS PERFECT FOR OPENING NIGHT, BUT THE SMALL ENSEMBLES HAD THE MOST WORK TO DO. THE SMALL ENSEMBLES HAD TO WORK TOGETHER FOR HOURS TO GET THEIR VOICES TO BLEND AND WORK TOGETHER FOR THE DIFFERENT SONGS AND IN THE END THEIR HARD WORK PAID OFF. THIS YEARS MUSICAL WAS DIFFERENT FROM THE PAST IN MANY WAYS, BUT IT WAS SIMILAR IN MANY WAYS TOO. IT WAS SIMILAR IN THE SENSE THAT THE STUDENTS PERFORMING WANTED NOTHING MORE THAN TO PUT ON A GREAT SHOW FOR THE AUDIENCE, AND THEY DID JUST THAT. THE STUDENTS HAVE BEEN PUTTING ON A GREAT SHOW FOR YEARS AND THEY WILL CONTINUE TO FOR MANY YEARS TO COME.

We all went to "Kansas City" with junior Sara Mustafa. Mustafa also sang some duets with senior Steven Lehman and another with senior Kristin Fedor. Mustafa also held a leading role in this year's fall play.

In this year musical, Smoky Joe's Cafe, senior Amanda Morales taught us all how to shimmy. Morales has never missed a performance of the fall play or the spring musical in her four years here at PHS. This was also Morales' last time performing on the PHS stage.



With great enthusiasm, junior Katherine Batista leads her group in the song "Don Juan." Batista also sang back up to many other songs throughout the show.

The girls astounded the audience with their singing abilities in all four of the performances. Batista is also on the Legend staff.

While being held back, senior Steven Lehmann sings with his group mates about a sassy woman named "Little Egypt." The boy's ensemble was one of the more memorable of the night. The guys also did an outstanding job on their numbers "Young Blood," and "Seething."



PHOTO BY: JUSTIN FOSTER



As opening night came closer, rehearsals became more intense for senior Eric Hettreick and junior Joseph Morales. Hettreick and Morales' dance was an outstanding success, during the song "Rose In Spanish Harlem." They both have been a part of the musicals and plays in the past.

With only a few rehearsals left before opening night Mr. William Bodnar gives some last minute suggestions to the cast and crew. Bodnar has been directing on and off, for the past 33 years. William stated that he can't pick a favorite show because they were all extraordinary in their own way.

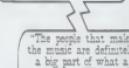


PHOTO BY: JUSTIN FOSTER



"I think that everything is important to a musical, but the music overrides everything because if there was no music then you can't call it a musical."

Masee Ranney, junior



"The people that make them are definitely a big part of what a musical is. Without the music, the whole idea of being on stage is pointless."

Sara Hartman, freshman

What do you feel is the most important part of a musical?



PHOTO BY: KELLEY YUOT

The choreography for this year's musical was very detailed and it took many hours of practicing to get the moves right. Junior Stephanie Tanic and sophomore Kristine Jones rehearsed with the other girls to perfect the dances for opening night. Tanic and Jones both helped choreograph the water musical with junior Ben Betziger.



PHOTO BY: MEGAN RICHMOND

While concentrating intensely on his music senior Christopher Bolant rocks out on his guitar. Bolant is no stranger to the stage, he has also performed in Air Band Variety Show, and both past musicals and plays throughout his four years here at Portage High School.



PHOTO BY: MEGAN RICHMOND



PHOTO BY: JUSTIN FOSTER

PHOTO BY: GENEVIEVE ARNOLD

One of the many performances of the night included the fun yet seductive "Peasen Ivy." The girls brought back memories from the past when fun tunes such as this one were dominant. They practiced the choreography together almost everyday to get it perfect for their four performances.

With only a few days before the performance the cast tried to make some last minute adjustments to help the musical be the best that it could be. On the night of the performance we were all "Saved" due to junior Alexandra Stewart's electrifying performance. All of the practices and hard work paid off in the end.



ANOTHER YEAR OF Junior miss

STORY BY:
KELLEY YUET

JUNIOR MISS WAS YET "I REALLY DID ENJOY ANOTHER OUTSTANDING ACCOMPANYING ALL. SHE SUCCESS THIS YEAR. THE IS ONE OF MY GOOD THEME WAS FLEETNOOP FRIENDS AND SHE IS MACK, HAVING SONGS AND DEFINITELY AN AWESOME ACT'S PERFORMED SINGER. IT WAS GREAT TO THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT SEE HER GO ON AND WIN MANY FAMILAR FACES THE COMPETITION."

WERE SHOWN SENIOR JANA ZERVOIS THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT STATED SUCH AS SENIOR JANA A PLETHORA OF ZERVOIS ON THE PIANO. AWARDS WERE GIVEN FORMER JUNIOR MISS THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT SENIOR AMANDA SUCH AS TALENT, GIVEN MORALES, AND MR. JOE TO JUNIORS JESSICA STEVENS AS AN BOLINT AND DANIELLE

ANNOUNCER LEIMBACH, AND OTHERS "I THINK ALL OF THE SUCH AS MISS GIRLS REALLY WORKED CONGENIALITY, AND HARD ON THEIR TALENTS AWARDS FOR ACADEMIC AND ACTS AT ACHIEVEMENT.

REHEARSALS THEY REALLY "I THOUGHT THE SEEMED TO GET INTO AWARDS WERE MUCH THEIR ACTS, WHICH BETTER THIS YEAR REALLY SHOWED THE BECAUSE I ACTUALLY GOT AUDIENCE HOW HARD THEY TO SEE MY CLASS WIN WORKED THROUGHOUT THEM." JUNIOR RAMI THEIR REHEARSALS. PIERS STATED.

SENIOR MEGAN RICHMOND EACH GIRL GOT TO ADDRESSED SPEND TIME WITH THEIR

JUNIOR ALEXANDRA CLASSMATES STEWART TOOK HOME THE THROUGHOUT THE OUTSTANDING AWARD AS COMPETITION.

BEING NAMED JUNIOR "THIS WAS DEFINITELY MISS OF PORTAGE HIGH SOMETHING THESE GIRLS SCHOOL. STEWART SANG WILL REMEMBER FOR THE FOR HER TALENT, AND REST OF THEIR LIVES."

SENIOR JANA ZERVOIS SENIOR JANA ZERVOIS ACCOMPANIED HER ON THE EXCLAIMED. PIANO.



The qualities that a Junior Miss have are many. Along with fitness, the girls are judges on poise, talent and academics.





Right after the fitness routine, the girls were asked a series of questions. Junior Jessica Hedges awaits her.

Presenter and principal Richard Kirchner reads through the list of awards while last year's winner, Amanda Morales awaits to crown a new Junior Miss.



Having fun with the fitness routine, the contestants show their physical prowess to the judges and audience members alike.

Junior Miss Highlights





AN OUTSTANDING NIGHT

of talent

STORY BY:

KRISAN CIESZKIEWICZ

EACH YEAR THE SENIOR BOYS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL'S OUTSTANDING YOUNG MAN PROGRAM. THEY COMPETE FOR A \$1,750 CASH SCHOLARSHIP, AMONG OTHER PRIZES. THE PROGRAM RECOGNIZES THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE SENIOR BOYS AND ENCOURAGES THEM TO CONTINUE EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL. ALL OF THE CANDIDATES RECEIVE A YMCA MEMBERSHIP, A \$100 CASH SCHOLARSHIP, AND OTHER VARIOUS GIFTS, JUST FOR BEING PART OF THE PROGRAM.

THIS YEAR'S THEME WAS "TRIBUTE TO RAY," REVOLVING AROUND THE LEGENDARY RAY CHARLES. THE STAGE WAS ADORNED WITH A BACKDROP READING HIS NAME AND HIS MUSIC PLAYED THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT'S SEGMENTS.

OUT OF THIRTY FIVE STUDENTS PARTICIPATING THIS YEAR, BRETT BERMES WON THE COMPETITION. HE PLANS TO ATTEND VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY TO STUDY BUSINESS AND PLAY SOCCER FOR THE SCHOOL'S TEAM.

THERE ARE FIVE SEGMENTS IN WHICH THE BOYS ARE EVALUATED BY AN INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEW IS HELD BY THE JUDGES, MAKING UP THIRTY PERCENT OF THE COMPETITION. ACADEMICS AND COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS ARE ALSO REVIEWED BEFOREHAND. DURING THE NIGHT'S SHOW, THEY ARE JUDGED BY PRESENTATION AND ADDRESS, THE CASUAL SEGMENT AND THE PHYSICAL SEGMENT.

OTHER ENTERTAINMENT DURING THE NIGHT WAS PROVIDED BY THE VOLUNTARY TALENT SEGMENT OF THE SHOW, INCLUDING MUSICAL AND ACTING TALENT, AND SPECIAL GUEST CHESTER GREGORY.

LAST YEAR'S OUTSTANDING YOUNG MAN, BRIAN FIELDER, ENDED THE NIGHT WITH THREE THINGS TO LIVE YOUR LIFE BY; "LOVE YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS, FEAR GOD, AND TAKE NOTHING FOR GRANTED."

The formal segment of the program allows the boys to address their goals upon graduation. Senior Joel Slamerewski plans to attend Purdue University to major in engineering.

PHOTO BY ERICA RODRIGUEZ



PHOTO BY ERICA RODRIGUEZ





Presentation and address is the portion of the show when the boys address the audience in their formal wear. Here they are lined up and waiting their turn to speak about their life goals.



At rehearsals, senior Amanda Morales teaches the boys an aerobics routine. They are to perform the dance during the physical segment of the show to the song, "Save Your Lovin' Just For Me."

PHOTO BY BRIE METTRICK



PHOTO BY KRISAN CIESZKIEWICZ



As a treat for the audience, Chester Gregory flew in from New York to grace the stage. He performed three songs from "The Jackie Wilson Story" and as one of three principle characters from "Hairspray" on Broadway.

Given the option to participate in the talent portion of the show, senior Dustin Foster composed and performed an original monologue. Its title is "Freedom and Anonymity."

PHOTO BY KRISAN CIESZKIEWICZ

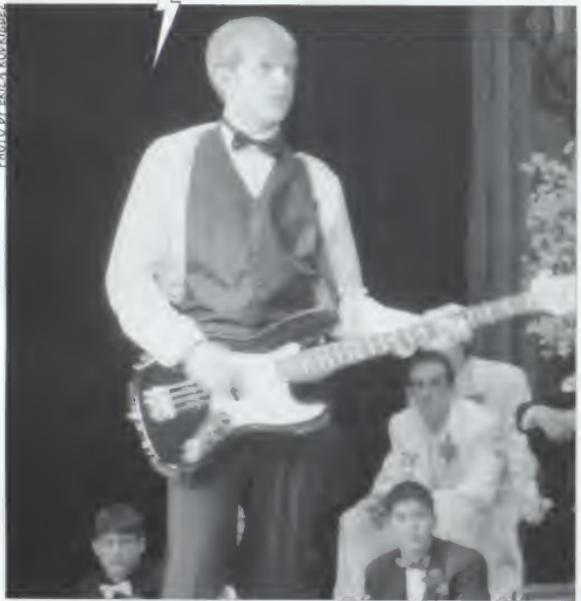


PHOTO BY KRISAN LESZEKIEWICZ



PHOTO BY KRISAN LESZEKIEWICZ

A cover of Journey's "Anyway You Want It" was played during the talent segment. Senior Timothy Dohne played bass along with three other boys making up the band.

With awards in hand, the senior girls patiently wait in line to congratulate the winners who are soon to be announced. Prizes range from YMCA memberships to cash awards.



Outstanding Young Man Brett Bermes

Finalists

- 1st Eric Mundt
- 2nd Mark Scheuer
- 3rd David Hinojosa
- 4th David Staples

Academic Award

Joel Slomkowski
Timothy Slatton
Daniel Biby
Eric Mundt

Casual Segment

Matthew Engel
Bradley Nerkus
Steven Rosenbaum

Dress Awards

Steven Lehmann
Christopher Curiel
Michael Parker

Physical Segment

Nicholas Sturges

Kyle Dean
Brett Bermes

Good Guy Award

Robert Bailey
David Staples
Brett Spotten

Fraternity Award

Brett Spotten

PHOTO BY BRIE METTRICK



Cad in boxes and flexing their muscles, the boys' performance is accompanied by the cheers and howls from the audience. The physical segment will count as twenty percent of their evaluation.

To prepare for the program, the boys are getting comfortable at rehearsals. They will need to learn the format of the show, as well as the routine they will perform.

THE SHOW MUST

go on!!!

STORY BY:
AMANDA BURCH

AS THE MIDPOINT OF HAVING FUN, AIR BAND IS THE YEAR COMES AROUND RIDICULOUS." AT THE CORNER, STUDENTS WITH THE LACK OF AT PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPANTS, THE ANTICIPATE THE MUCH STUDENTS WHO DID BELOVED AIR BAND SHOW. PARTICIPATE MADE THE THIS SHOW ALLOWS SHOW ANOTHER SUCCESS STUDENTS TO LET LOOSE THIS YEAR AND SHOWED AND RELIEVE SOME OF THE WHAT A BLAST IT CAN MUCH-ADDED STRESS OF TRULY BE.

FINALS, THIS YEAR'S "I HAVE BEEN IN TWO SHOW FELL SHORT OF A OTHER SHOWS BEFORE FEW ACTS, TO FILL IN TIME; AND I LOVE BEING ON THE RULES WERE BROKEN STAGE. IT'S A RUSH THAT OF NO LIVE BRINGS THE BEST OUT OF PERFORMANCES. WITH THE ME. COME ON IF YOU'VE FEW LIVE ACTS THAT WERE GOT IT, FLAUNT IT!" PERFORMED, THEY MADE STATES SENIOR ASHLEY THIS YEAR'S SHOW EVEN JALOVECKY.

MORE SPECIAL THAN IN MANY OF THE CLASSIC THE PAST. WITH THE AIR BAND SKITS CONSIST SHORTAGE OF ELABORATE COSTUMES PARTICIPANTS, NEXT AND INSTRUMENTS MADE YEAR'S SHOW IS NOW IN CARDBOARD AND OTHER QUESTION. HOMEMADE MATERIALS.

WHEN ASKED IF THE MOST OF THE SHOW SHOULD GO ON, PERFORMANCES ARE SENIOR JANA ZERVOS REENACTMENTS OF THE REPLIES, "OF COURSE. LIFE 1980'S ERA. THIS TIME IS WOULD BE TERRIBLE IF CHOSEN DUE TO ITS THERE WAS NO AIR BAND! FLAMBOYANCE AND IT WAS OVERALL JUST A MEMORABLE MUSIC GREAT NIGHT AND IT WAS MOMENTS. NICE TO SEE EVERYONE

While busting out his best moves, senior Daniel Biby is the center of attention in the spotlight. Biby's group mates reach out to get a piece of the action during their performance.



At air band, junior Robert Liesch rocks out on his guitar. Liesch has participated in the event in the past years, along with his brothers.





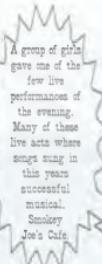
Decked out in bubble bee costume and diaper, senior Christopher Belint rocks out with his broomstick. Air band allows students to show a side of themselves that most do not experience regularly.

While belting out his rendition of "Total Eclipse of the Heart", seniors Brett Bermes and Jacqueline Barnum, strut their stuff across the stage. This was one of the more exuberant acts of the night.





"The best part
of our band was
putting my
hands all over
Dan Biby" -
12. Michael
Parker



A group of girls
gave one of the
few live
performances of
the evening.
Many of these
live acts where
songs sung in
this years
successful
musical.
Smoky
Joe's Cafe

After a resounding performance, senior Stephen Sweat
casually waves in gratitude as the crowd goes wild.
Sweat beat boxed for the crowd with this being yet
another live performance of the evening.



"In an effort to get the crowd going, a group of
PHS's finest put together a skit in their sports
attire. The main goal of the evening was to go
out on stage and have a good time."





A number of girls combined dancing and singing with their own choreographed moves. This act's moves made it one of the more interesting ones of the night. The girls did a outstanding job.

PHS's "Mad Dog" calls out the next act from his stationary position on the stage. It is a tradition for Mr. Bodnar to announce the up and coming acts from the side of the stage.



These beautiful dancers have been friends since first meeting freshman year. At this years show they expressed how well they could dance and how important friendship is when performing.



LONG TIME

talents

STORY BY:
RAMI PIERS

THIS YEARS VARIETY SHOW WAS A HUG HIT AT PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL.

THE AUDIENCE WAS PACKED WITH STUDENTS CHEERING ON THEIR PEERS.

THE SHOW CONSISTED OF TWENTY-THREE ACTS. ALL OF THEM DISPLAYED BRILLIANT TALENT OF OUR FELLOW CLASSMATES.

THE SHOW OPENED WITH A BAND NAMED SHIMACKIES. THEIR COVERS RANG IN THE AUDITORIUM CAUSING THE CROWD TO CLAP ALONG WITH THE MUSIC.

THERE WERE QUITE A FEW SPECTACULAR ACTS IN BETWEEN THE SHIMACKIES PERFORMANCE AND THE CLOSING NOTES FROM CHRIS BOLINT ON BONGOS AND ANDREW ADAMIR SINGING AS THEIR MELODIES BEAT THREW THE HEADS OF THE ATTENDEES.

MUSIC WAS NOT THE ONLY TALENT DISPLAYED BY THIS YEAR'S BATCH OF

PERFORMERS. MANY DANCERS SHOWED THEIR SKILLS OFF TO JUST BY DOING WHAT THEY LOVE AND THAT'S DANCING.

THE FIRST DANCE OF THE NIGHT WAS DONE BY FRESHMAN CAROL

BELLEVILLE AND CHRISTINA RODRIGUEZ TOGETHER. THEY GATHERED AN APPRECIATION AND APPROVAL FROM THE CROWD.

GRACING THE STAGE IN THE SECOND ACT WAS AN UNUSUAL ROUTINE. NOT ANOTHER SONG AND DANCE BUT MARTIAL ARTS.

"IT WAS A SIGN OF RELIEF TO BRAKE AWAY FROM THE NORMAL AND SEE KIDS BREAK BOARDS AND SWORD FIGHT ON STAGE," RECALLED JUNIOR LISA WHITWORTH.

MANY GOOD ACTS INVOLVING MUSIC WERE PRESENT ON THAT FRIDAY NIGHT BUT NONE QUITE AS MEMBERABLE AS CHRIS BOLINT GETTING UP ON THE STAGE AND ROCKIN' OUT IN FRONT OF EVERYBODY.

"DID YOU SEE HOW FAST HE WAS PLAYING?" EXCLAIMED ERIC RUIZ AS HE WATCHED A FELLOW MUSICIAN IN AME.

"THIS YEAR WE HAD A GREAT VARIETY SHOW," STATED MR. BONIDER AS THE SHOW CAME TO AN END. NEXT YEAR HAS VERY HIGH STANDARDS TO MEET.



The opening act this year was The Shimackies. This group of sophomores started out with covers and then ended with a couple of originals.

The Secret Garden played a very lively song they wrote themselves. The band is made of two guys both seniors. D.J. Vander Wal and Mitch Mannino. He is the amazing guitarist and DJ is on vocals.



She's on poms and has been dancing since she was a little girl. Junior Stephanie Tanis here displays her skills by spinning around dexterously in circles. Her cute smile is always a crowd pleaser.



As students left the show "Best act all night," could be heard about senior Tim Slatten's adaptation of Napoleon Dynamite's dance. He had it down perfectly in his boots, hair, and shirt.



No stranger to the stage, senior Shannen Stutler sang her heart out when it was her turn to take the stage. She has been in many of the schools productions due to her beautiful singing voice.



This country girl had the crowd clapping and stamping to the music as she sang a song by the Dixie Chicks. Sophomore Christina Ratliff has always loved to sing and listen to country music.



These guys sure know how to rock.
The Shmokies opened the show with a
cover song and then finished up with
an original cover.

Deep in thought,
senior Andrew Adair
belts out Baby Beluga.
This humorous act
ended this year's
variety show.



This cluster of dancers, pom girls, and cheerleaders was headed by junior Alison Homer. The unique act was a fun liberation for the audience to relax and dance in there seats.

Yea, the senior boys have returned for this years Bitchin' Ballerinas. These new ballerinas are Christopher Bolint, Adam Kilgore, Michael Parker, Daniel Biby, Eric Mundt, Kyle Devaney and Starr Rosebaum.





A display of brilliance was witnessed as junior Mitch Siewik and seniors Robert Cercelius and Jeb Henry showed off their skills.

They are members of the Tae Kwon club at PHS

At last, her talent was unleashed on an audience that could not have known that senior Maribel Deselles was capable of singing the commanding way she does. Her strong voice and sweet innocent smile is classic.



What's it like being on stage?

"I loved being on stage and having everybody laughing and applauding for me. It was so much fun."

-Tim Slatton



In anticipation of the announcement, juniors Randall Dawkins and Rachel Kanuch walk to center floor. The halftime presentation was led by the thespian officers.



The senior boys await with eagerness previous to the winter homecoming king being declared. Junior prince Shane Duren stands in the background after being crowned.



After being named princess, junior Rachel Kanuch kneels down in order for senior David Hindeca to place the crown upon her head. The rest of the junior girls watch.





Junior girls gather in rows during the halftime ceremony of the game against Crown Point. Each girl was given a corsage before going out onto the court.



After the first quarter ended, the vanity boys lined up and prepared to depart to the locker room to strategize and review plays for the next half. The boys came back to a disappointing loss.



Arm and arm, homecoming king and queen, seniors, Bris Hetrick and Michael Kirk walk off the floor.

The pair left the

gymnasium to visit

friends and family

in the lobby to

take photos. Both

seniors are in other

events within PHS

THANKS TO

thespians

STORY AND
PHOTOS BY:

JESSICA HODGES

INSTITUTED IN 1989, WINTER HOMECOMING HAS BECOME A HIGHLY ANTICIPATED EVENT EACH YEAR IT HAS BEEN IN EFFECT. HOWEVER, TWO YEARS AGO THE CEREMONY WAS AT RISK OF NO LONGER BEING CELEBRATED WHEN ADMINISTRATORS FELT PUTTING ON TWO LARGE HOMECOMING DANCES AND CEREMONIES WOULD WEIGH TOO HEAVILY ON

THE SCHOOL AND STUDENTS FINANCIALLY. FOLLOWING THE THERAPIANS RECEIVING NEWS OF THE CEREMONY POSSIBLY BEING PUT TO REST THEY DECIDED TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE SITUATION. THE CLUB HAS NOW BECOME THE NEW SPONSORS OF THIS TRADITION FOR THE TIME BEING.

"THESPians ADOPTED THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF

* THE WINTER HOMECOMING NOMINATIONS AND THE CEREMONY ONCE THE STUDENTS FOUND OUT THE SCHOOL WAS THINKING OF NO LONGER PARTICIPATING IN THIS CUSTOM," EXPLAINS THEATER DIRECTOR MR. JOSEPH STEVENS.

* THE BOYS OPPOSED CROWN POINT AND UNFORTUNATELY WALKED AWAY WITH A LOSS. THROUGHOUT THE FIRST

HALF OF THE GAME THE TEAM WAS ABLE TO MAINTAIN ONLY A FEW POINT TRAIL BEHIND CROWN POINT.

* HEADING TOWARDS THE SECOND HALF HOPES WERE STILL HIGH AND A COME BACK STILL SEEMED PROBABLE.

* AFTER THE TEAM RETREATED INTO THE LOCKER ROOM THE HOMECOMING FESTIVITIES BEGAN.

As the nominees applaud king and queen, seniors Michael Kirk and Brie Hettrock stand and pose for pictures.

Hettrock is a choreographer in "Smiley Joe's Cafè", and Kirk is a member of the cross-country team.

After being named queen, senior Brie Hettrock walks with flowers in hand toward king Michael Kirk as he adjusts his crown.

The pair were received with great excitement by the crowd.



Prior to the winter homecoming court announcement, princesses and queen nominees gather together. The title of winter homecoming princess went to junior Rachel Hanich and title of queen was given to senior Brie Hettrock.

Thespian's president senior Amanda Morison places the crown upon junior prince Shane Dixon's head during the ceremony. Dixon is also involved in football and baseball during the year.





STEVENS COMMENCED THE CEREMONY BY ANNOUNCING THESPIANS PRESIDENT AMANDA MORALES, VICE PRESIDENT DAVID HINOJOSA, AND SECRETARY ALEXANDRA STEWART.

FROM THEN ON THE HOMECOMING COURT WAS ANNOUNCED AS THE NOMINEES WALKED OUT onto the floor. STARTING WITH THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS NOMINEES EACH COUPLE STROLLED ARM AND ARM INTO THEIR SPOTS IN ANTICIPATION OF THE WINNERS BEING DECLARED.

THE EXCITEMENT CONTINUED TO RISE, AS THE SENIORS WERE CALLED INTO THEIR PLACES. ONCE THE TWENTY-FOUR NOMINEES WERE ANNOUNCED

THE CROWD GREW ANXIOUS AS THE WINNERS WERE REVEALED. WINNING THE TITLE OF PRINCE AND PRINCESS WERE SHANE DIXON AND RACHEL KANICH. THE KING AND QUEEN CROWNS WENT TO MICHAEL KIRK AND BRIE HETTRICK. AFTER BEING AWARDED THEIR FLOWERS AND CROWNS THE WINNERS COMPOSED THEMSELVES AND LEFT THE GYMNASIUM.

AS THE SECOND HALF PROGRESSSED ALL HOPES OF A COMEBACK BEGAN TO GROW BLEAK. THE HARDER THE BOYS PLAYED THE FURTHER BEHIND THEY FELL. DESPITE THE TEAM'S EFFORTS TO SURPASS CROWN POINT'S SCORE THEIR HARD WORK FELL SHORT. THE GAME ENDED WITH A DISAPPOINTING DEFEAT TO THE BULLDOGS.



"I was surprised I won. I was up against some great guys and I didn't know I had the title of winter homecoming prince." junior, Shane Dixon

Ready to take their position on the floor senior nominees senior's Shaen Gannon and Brittany Gill walk onto the floor. The pair worked as staff together for the natural helpers retreat.



In the second quarter of the game senior Anthony Leal dodges Crown Point players and makes his way down the court. The game ended with an unfortunate loss to the Crown Point Bulldogs.

With determination to defend the Portage basket junior Nathan Lewis bends into his stance. Lewis went on to block the opposing team's shot.



While doing the robot with their boyfriends, seniors Kelley Yodt and Meredith McLeod seem to be having fun. Both have been in yearbook for three years and are coeditors this year.



Sweaty and exhausted sophomore Samantha Alley, freshmen Spencer Rosenberger and Matthew Nadeau dance up a storm. All were laughing and having a great time dancing together.



Smiles and laughing, junior Korea Smith dances with fellow classmate senior Ashley Jaleovecky and teacher Ms. Carlson on the common benches. All were seen dancing to the YMCA for a crowd of spectators on the side.



Filled with smiles while holding each other tight, seniors Mark Monroe and Samantha Newbook dance the night away. Many couples were seen gazing into each other's sparkling eyes while slow music played in the background.





WINTER fantasy

STORY BY:
ASHLEY JALOVECKY

ON SATURDAY AT LEAST THREE TIMES DECEMBER 15, OUR ANNUAL WINTER FORMAL WAS HELD IN THE HIGH SCHOOL'S COMMONS. THE THEME THIS YEAR WAS WINTER FANTASY, AND THAT IT WAS!

DECORATIONS WERE EVERYWHERE WITH CASTLES, FAIRIES, AND SNOW SIGNIFYING A TRUE WINTER FANTASY. THERE WAS EVEN AN ICE SCULPTURE OF A CASTLE THAT COST A WHOPPING 400 DOLLARS!

"EVERYTHING WAS PIECED TOGETHER REALLY NICELY AND LOOKED GREAT," STATED MATH TEACHER MS. CARLSON. FOR YEARS THE DISC JOCKEY COMPANY ENTERTAINMENT EXPRESS HAS PUMPED THE CROWDS WITH DANCE MUSIC THAT EVERYONE ENJOYS.

UNFORTUNATELY THIS YEAR WE HAD THE PLEASURE OF TRYING OUT A NEW DISC JOCKEY, WHICH REPEATED SONGS. DECORATIONS AND DANCING WERE BY FAR THE BEST PARTS THIS YEAR. IT'S A GUARANTEE THAT THE WINTER FORMAL WAS A SMASH THAT EVERYONE WILL REMEMBER IN THE FUTURE.



For the last dance senior Kristopher Enstrom pulls junior Jessica Metz close in his arms. The two of them were nothing but smiles the entire night.

While dancing, juniors Philip Wright and Christopher Longo stay extremely quiet. Both of their dancing partners were students from a school in Illinois.

As soon as every senior moves their tassels from the left side to the right side of their caps they are official graduates. Hooting and hollering can be heard from every seat in the audience.

After hearing words of encouragement from the guest speaker, all of the seniors lined up from each row to receive their diplomas. All were excited for the simple fact that they would soon be done with high school forever.



Quietly everyone listened as Mr. Kirchner gave words of wisdom to the graduating class of 2005.

A total of 95 seniors graduated this past January. The majority graduated with either the honors or Core 40 diplomas.



As they look into the audience, seniors Dana and Danae Krenkel smile at their family members. Since graduation Dana has started college at IUN while Danae traveled to Germany for five weeks.

ANOTHER ONE FOR THE books

STORY BY:
ASHLEY JALOVECKY

TOWARD THE END OF TERM TWO THE HALLWAYS SEEMED EMPTY AND THE LUNCHES FELT BARE. REASON BEING THAT OVER 90 SENIORS HAD LEFT PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL

FOR THEIR SENIOR WEEK

BEFORE MID YEAR GRADUATION. ANXIETY AND EXCITEMENT WERE TWO MAJOR FEELINGS ALL OF THE SENIORS FELT AS THEY WERE LEAVING THE SCHOOL FOR

GOOD.

MOST PLANNED ON GOING TO COLLEGE OR WORKING

FULL TIME AFTER THEY GRADUATED, BUT BEFORE THAT HAPPENED, THEY WERE ALL MORE CONCERNED WITH ONE THING; HIGH SCHOOL WAS FINALLY OVER AND THE NEXT CHAPTER OF THEIR LIFE

WAS FINALLY ABOUT TO BEGIN. AFTER GRADUATION THE "REAL" WORLD BEGINS. NO MORE GETTING UP AT THE SAME TIME EVERYDAY TO GO

TO A SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT WHERE TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR EVERYONE'S ACTIONS.

MANY FEEL THIS CHAPTER IN A GRADUATE'S LIFE IS THE BIRD OUT OF THE NEST EFFECT. THIS SIMILE MEANING AS SOON AS YOU TURN 18 AND GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL, MOM AND DAD ARE SUPPOSED TO LET GO. IN

THE SAME SENSE A MOTHER BIRD LET'S HER BABY FLY AWAY AS SOON AS IT IS STRONG ENOUGH TO FEND FOR ITSELF.

"MY PARENT'S THOUGHT IT WOULD BE GOOD FOR ME TO GET AN EARLY START ON MY COLLEGE COURSES TO GET A FEEL OF COLLEGE LIFE. THEY DIDN'T WANT EVERYTHING TO ALL DROWN ON TOP OF ME AT THE SAME TIME," STATES SENIOR AMY SHAY.

AFTER EVERY SENIOR MOVED HIS OR HER TASSELS FROM THE LEFT TO THE RIGHT SIDE OF THEIR CAPS,

GRADUATION WAS OFFICIALLY COMPLETED. OFFICIAL DIPLOMAS COULD BE PICKED UP AFTER THE CEREMONY IN THE BOOKSTORE. ALL DIPLOMAS WERE HELD JUST IN CASE PEOPLE GOT OUT OF HAND AND WOULDN'T BE ALLOWED TO GRADUATE.

AFTER THE EVENTS, A STUDENT ASKED SENIOR DAVID ALLEN WHAT HE WOULD MISS THE MOST AFTER HIGH SCHOOL. HE SIMPLY STATED, "ALL OF THE BEAUTIFUL GIRLS."

AS THE NEXT CHAPTER HAS STEADILY PROGRESSED FOR THE SENIORS OF 2005, EVERYONE AT PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL WOULD LIKE TO WISH THEM NOTHING BUT THE BEST FOR THEIR FUTURE ENDEAVORS.



In a speech about life, senior class president Sarah Tugurian says good-bye to her fellow classmates. Sarah will follow in their footsteps in late spring of this year.

On the dance floor junior Chad Biddle and graduate Laura Anderson get their groove on to one of the hip-hop songs played that night.



MOONLIGHT

serenade

STORY BY:

GENEVIEVE ARNOLD

EVERY YEAR PROM IS THE MAIN EVENT OF THE YEAR. THIS YEARS PROM THEME WAS "MOONLIGHT SERENADE", A MAGICAL AND UNFORGETTABLE ONE. THEIR WERE A LOT OF THINGS DIFFERENT ABOUT THIS PROM AND THEIR ARE MANY THINGS THAT WERE THE SAME. "I LOVED THE GIFTS THAT WERE GIVEN TO US AT THE END OF PROM, THEY WERE A NICE SURPRISE," SAID SENIOR MEREDITH WHEELER. A VERY DIVERSE PART OF THE PROM WAS THE MUSIC, EVEN THOUGH, MAINLY R&B AND HIP-HOP, THE DJ THREW IN A BIT OF POP, COUNTRY, AND OLDIES. "I LIKED THE MUSIC AT PROM, BUT I THOUGHT IT COULD OF HAD A LITTLE

MORE TECHNO," EXPRESSED JUNIOR ANTHONY COSTA. THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE NIGHT WAS WHEN THE PROM COURT WAS ANNOUNCED, IN THE END UP TO BE TIMOTHY SLATTON, AND PROM QUEEN WAS MIRABELLA SELLERS. THE PRINCE WAS RADLEY ALCANTARA AND PRINCESS WAS STEPHANIE TANIS. "WHEN THEY ANNOUNCED MY NAME AS PROM KING I WAS EXHILARATED. I REALLY DIDN'T EXPECT IT AND IT WAS A GREAT WAY TO REMEMBER MY SENIOR PROM," SAID SENIOR TIMOTHY SLATTON. OVERALL PROM NIGHT WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED AS A SPECTACULAR NIGHT.



With great enthusiasm, senior Kristan Feder and freshman Timothy Thompson dance the night away. Both of them partied hard and danced until they dropped.





The night of Prom senior Kevin Parkerson and freshman Lisa Sampawaik dance together to a current rap song that night. Parkerson is known for his energetic attitude when he participated in GYM, the Variety Show, and Air band for his senior year.

Simply dancing to one of the slow songs that night junior Louis Rubalcaba and junior Kylie Beaudreau hold each other close and stare into each others eyes. Both of them said that their night was incredible.



At the 2005 Prom, "Moonlight Serenade" seniors Holly Benz and Timothy Moabee dance the night away. This is both Benz and Moabee's last prom until they will graduate next month.

Caught in the moment seniors Jason Willis and Kali Foyteck boogie to the music as they shake their hips. Both have been in a relationship together for quite awhile this year.

While dancing to the groovy music seniors Sarah Tugurian and Melance Dallas pause to smile for a quick picture a friend took.



Being your last prom what was your reaction to being nominated and winning prom queen?



Maribel
Sollars
12

"I was really excited to get nominated but I didn't really expect to win so when I did I was extremely shocked and happy."

In each others arms, seniors Joseph Wadle and Catherine Andrews hold each other tight while slow dancing. Many couples were seen slow dancing throughout the long evening.



A group of friends were seen laughing and being silly during an 80's song. Most of the dance moves consisted of the robot.





After receiving their crowns
the prom court had time to
pose for a picture before
dancing to the senior song.
This year's song was "Wild
Nights" by John Mellencamp.

With a huge smile senior Michael Kirk shows off
his dance moves to with his friends. Kirk was
crowned winter homecoming king during
basketball season of 2004.



After all the speeches, senior Anthony Espinoza steps forward to receive his graduation diploma. More traditionally, Espinoza was always known for stepping out onto the football field or onto the wrestling mat.



AN END TO A NEW

BEGINNING...

STORY AND PHOTOS BY:
KATHERINE BATISTA

SO QUICKLY DO THEY COME, SO QUICKLY DO THEY LEAVE. AFTER COUNTING DOWN THE TEDIOSUS DAYS, THE CLASS OF 2005 IS MAKING ITS WAY OUT INTO THE REAL WORLD. WITH GREAT ANTICIPATION AND THE Sudden ATTACK OF REALISM, THESE SENIORS PROUDLY PREPARE FOR THE DAY OF THEIR CHILDHOOD'S END, THE DAY WHEN THEY WALK ACROSS THAT MOMENTOUS STAGE AND RECEIVE A DECLARATION OF ALL THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS. SOON THEY WILL EMBARK ON THE JOURNEY OF THEIR FUTURES. HERE FORWARD, THE REST OF THEIR LIVES ARE IN THE HANDS OF STRANGERS NO MORE, BUT IN THE DIRECTION OF THEIR OWN ALTERNATIVE DESTINIES.

"I THINK GRADUATION IS THE POINT IN ALL OF OUR LIVES WHERE WE'RE SO GLAD THAT WE'RE FINALLY DONE. ALTHOUGH MY HIGH SCHOOL CAREER IS SOMETHING I WILL NEVER FORGET, I LOOK FORWARD TO MY FUTURE," EXPLAINED

SENIOR ROBERT BAILEY. WITH THESE GRADUATES LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE PAST, IT IS A RARITY TO COME ACROSS A SENIOR WHO DOESN'T ALREADY HAVE PLANS FOR THE UPCOMING FALL. WHETHER IT BE ENROLLING INTO A UNIVERSITY OR JUMPING RIGHT INTO A CAREER, THESE SENIORS HAVE THEIR INTENTIONAL PLANS SET.

"I'M NOT GOING TO COLLEGE RIGHT AWAY. FIRST, I'M IMMEDIATELY GOING TO BEGIN WORK FOR A HEATING AND COOLING COMPANY. THEN, I PLAN ON STARTING SCHOOL," SAID SENIOR JAMES MARTINEZ.

"FOR THOSE WHO ARE PREPARED FOR THE ROAD AHEAD, GRADUATION HAS BECOME A LONG AWAITED OPPORTUNITY RATHER THAN A RANDOM WALK INTO AN UNKNOWN TERRITORY."

"GRADUATION IS A TREMENDOUS STEP FOR MANY PEOPLE. ALTHOUGH IT REPRESENTS THE END OF HIGH SCHOOL, IT SYMBOLIZES THE BEGINNING OF THE REST OF YOUR LIFE," EXPRESSED SENIOR MELANEE DALLAS.





Known for their comic relief, seniors Daniel Biby, Phillip Cowger, and Eli Collazo stop to show off a few poses. Enjoying the attention, the boys get ready for the ceremony to begin.



Off the field, seniors Robert Krosnwick, Marcus Jane, Kevin Dunn, Brian Blasian, Zachary Boiling, Andrew Dranchak, and Mikel Rivera pose for a picture. These boys are the senior Varsity baseball players.



Before the commencement ceremony, senior Christopher Bolint lined up with the rest of his senior class. Bolint began to celebrate graduation even before he receives his diploma.

What do you plan on doing after graduation?

"In the fall I'm moving to Fort Wayne to pursue elementary education."
- Maribel Sellers



"I'm going to intern doing web design and open my own web designing business to pay for college."
- Michael Tifford



"I will be attending IUP in the fall for x-ray technology and then transfer to IU Bloomington to further my career."
- Roberta Vargas



"I'm going to the University of Southern Indiana to study Biology and Pre-Medina."
- Steven Rosenbaum



Album



Time As It

By Genevieve Arnold & Designed by Co-Editor Meredith McLeod

Flies By

TIME GOES BY SO FAST AND WE TAKE SO MUCH OF IT FOR GRANTED. OUR FOUR YEARS IN HIGH SCHOOL ARE SOME OF THE MOST PRECIOUS AND MOST SPECIAL IN OUR LIVES. STUDENTS EXPERIENCE SO MUCH THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL, AND LEARN FROM THEIR TRIUMPHS AND MISTAKES. WE KNOW NOW THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION AND THE VALUES THAT OUR PARENTS TAUGHT US. FOR WHEN OUR PARENTS WERE YOUNG AND NAIVE MUCH AS WE ARE NOW WE ARE LEARNING SOME OF THE SAME LESSONS THAT THEY WERE LEARNING THEN AND DURING THEIR SCHOOLING. IN THE 80'S THE LIFE FILLED WITH EDUCATION AND SCHOOLING WASN'T AS IMPORTANT AND AS PERTINENT AS IT IS FOR

STUDENTS NOW. OUR GENERATION IS SO MUCH SMARTER AND BRILLIANT, EVEN THOUGH A LOT OF THE TIMES, WE DO NOT EVEN REALIZE IT. OUR LIVES IN HIGH SCHOOL ARE FEW AND NUMBERED, AND STUDENTS DO NOT REALIZE THAT FACT UNTIL WE ARE FINALLY RECEIVING OUR DIPLOMA. EVEN THE FACULTY FEELS AS THOUGH IT IS THE END OF A SAGA. FROM THE 80'S TO THE NOW, TEACHERS FEEL SOME FORM OF LOSS WHEN ANOTHER YEAR GRADUATES AND ANOTHER YEAR IS SET IN STONE. EVEN THOUGH THE YEARS AHEAD OF US ARE GOING TO BE EVEN GREATER AND BRING US EVEN MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO OUR DOOR, WE SHOULD ALWAYS REMEMBER AND CHERISH THE YEARS THAT WE HAD AT PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL.

seniors

Joshua Adkins
Joseph Aimone

Football 9-11

David Allen

Daniel Alonzo

Catherine Andrews

Soccer 9-10, Tennis 9-10, National Honor Society 11-12, Student Council 9-12, Natural Helpers 11, Prom Court 11, Homecoming Court 11-12, Class Treasurer 12



Genevieve Arnold

Art Club 9-12, Writers Block 11-12, Multicultural Club 11-12, Multicultural Club Treasure 11, Multicultural Club Vice President 12, Legend 12, National Honor Society 12, Campus Life 12



Brittany Ball

Brittany Bancic

James Bardsley

Jackie Barnum

Soccer 9-12, Tennis 9-12, Junior Miss 11, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 10-12, Student Council 9-12, ACES 12, Natural Helpers 11, Prom Court 11, Homecoming Court 11-12, Air Band 12, Latin Club 11-12



Christopher Bartley

Caitlin Bartz

Pow Wow 10-11, National Honor Society 11-12, ACES 12, Powder-puff Game 11-12

Ryan Bauer

Nicole Beal

Leah Bearss

Cross Country 9-12, Basketball 9, Track 9-12, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11-12, HOSA 12, ACES 12, Leadership 12



Lauren Beller

Swimming team 10, POMS 9, HOSA 11, Student Council 9-10

Holly Benz

Concert Choir 9, Choristers, 10, 12, Glee Choir 10, Symphonic Choir 11-12, Spring Musical 10, National Honor Society 12, Senior Girls Club 12

Ambrea Berryman

Daniel Biby

Soccer 9-12, Baseball 9-10, Outstanding Young Man 12, Academic Teams 9-10, 12, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 10-11, ACES 12, Chess Club 9-12, Homecoming Court 11, Air Band 12, Variety Show 12, Soccer MVP

Jessica Blanton

Student Council 9-10, Peer Tutor 9, Foreign Language Honor Society 11, Knitting Club 12, French Club 11-12

Megan Boch

Jessica Boer

Spring Musical Pit Orchestra 9, 11, Speech Team 9, Concert Band 9, Marching Band 9-10, Symphonic Band 10-12, Jazz Band 9, Northwest Indiana Symphony Youth Orchestra 9-12, Indiana All State Band 11-12, Orchestra Winds 9-12

Christopher Bolint

Gene Braun

Eric Brink

Track 9-12, Pep Band 9-12, Wrestling 9, Football 9, 11, Concert Band 9-10, Marching Band 10, Symphonic Band 11-12, Athletic Trainer 11

Bryon Bristo

Erica Brown

ROTC 9-12, Peer Tutor 11-12

William Brown

Dennis Brubaker

Andrew Buczek



Ryan Butera

Reynaldo Caluag

Kari Campbell

Golf 9-12, Basketball 9, Track 9, Junior Miss 11, Peer Tutor 9-10, Homecoming Court 12, Leadership 11, Golf Rookie of the Year 9, MVP: Golf 11-12, Boys Basketball Manager 10, Golf Team Captain 11-12

Kelly Canner

Fall Play 10-12, Spring Musical Pit Orchestra 9, Spring Musical 10, Spring Musical Pit Choir 11, Helper for Outstanding Young Man 12, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11-12, ACES 12, Concert Orchestra 9, Symphonic Choir 9-12

Gary Carroll III

Nicole Catlin

Volleyball 9-12, Basketball 9-10, 12, Track 9-10, Homecoming Court 12

Stevie Chaddock

Alejandro Chavez

Multicultural Club 10, Business Professionals of America 12

Krisian Cieszkiewicz

Legend 10-12, Quill and Scroll 10-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11, Knitting Club 12, French Club 12

Veronica Colburn

Justin Collins

Randi Colville

Kayla Conroy

Fall Play 10, Campus Life 10-12, HOSA 12, Knitting Club 12

Robert Crecelius

Christopher Curiel

Melissa Dabu
Melanee Dallas

Cheerleading 9, Spring Musical 9-10, Junior Miss 11, HOSA President 11, Student Council 9 10, Natural Helpers 11-12, Powder Puff Football Game 11-12, Senior Girls Club 12

Amy Danielewicz

Kyle Dean

Soccer 9-12, Outstanding Young Man 12, National Honor Society 11-12, Business Professionals of America 11, Latin Club 10

Danielle Dienes

Matthew Dietz

Angelica Dillin

Basketball 9, Boys Basketball Manager 10

Kevin Dixon

Tennis 9-12, Basketball 9-12, Baseball 9-12

Timothy Dohner

Krystle Dove

Student Council 9-10, Swimming Team 9-11, Athletic Trainer 11, Powder-puff Football Game 11, Spring Musical 12, HOSA 12, Knitting Club 12, Writers Block 12



IN THE HOMECOMING PARADE ALL OF THE QUEEN NOMINEES WAVE TO THEIR PEERS IN HOPE OF WINNING THE CROWN DURING HALF TIME AT THE FOOTBALL GAME. SENIOR CARA HOMER SMILES BEFORE THE GAME WHERE SHE TAKES THE TITLE AS THE HOMECOMING QUEEN OF 2005.

AS A PART OF THE FESTIVITIES DURING THE PEP FOLLIES OF THE SENIOR GIRLS GOT TOGETHER WEEKS BEFORE THE EVENT TO PREPARE A ROUTINE FOR THE CROWD. DURING THE PERFORMANCE THE GIRLS WHOLEHEARTEDLY GOT DOWN WITH THEIR BAD SOLVES.





ONE OF THE BETTER ACTS DURING THE VARIETY SHOW WERE THE SUCES THAT PLAYED LIVE. SENIORS TIMOTHY DOMINOR AND BRETT SPOTTED HAD A BLAST ON STAGE AS THEY PERFORMED A MORE RECENT GREEN DAY SONG.

CONTENT AND PATIENT THE MIDYEAR GRADUATES WAIT FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SAY THEY ARE FINISHED WITH HIGH SCHOOL. ALL WERE VERY ANXIOUS DURING THE CEREMONY.



Melanie Fabian

Joshua Steven Farley

Beginning Band 9, Ice Hockey 9-10, Captain 12, Orchestra Winds 10-12, Saga 12, Concert band 10, Symphonic Band 11-12, Leadership 10

Kristin Fedor

Play 11-12, Musical 9-12, NHS 11-12, FLHS 10-12, ACES 12, Thespians 10-12, Marching Band 9-10, Symphonic Band 9-12, Pep Band 9, Symphonic Orchestra 10-12, Chorallers 10-12, Symphonic Choir 10-12, Peer Tutor 11-12, Air Band 10

Ashley Fields

Natalie Finnegan

Tennis 9, Student Council 10-11, Concert Choir 9, Glee Choir 10, Class Club 10-11

Dustin Foster

Fall Play 11-12, Spring Musical 10-12, Outstanding Young Man 12, Thespians 11-12, POW WOW 11-12, Quill and Scroll 10-12 , Air Band 10, Latin Club 9-12, Boys State 11-12

Bryana Fravel

Jennifer Furgye

Bobby Gifford

Bryan Gilbert

Track 9-12, Track and Field Letters 9, 11-12, Outstanding Young Man 12, Athletic Trainer 12, Spanish Club 12



Brittany Gill
Raymond Goss
Nolan Graves
Amanda Gray
Student Council 9-12, ROTC 11-12, Peer Tutor 9,
JROTC Drill 12
Jessica Guffey



Douglas Hale
Mark Hallmen Jr.
Football 9-11, Wrestling 9, Business Professionals
of America 11, Academy of Finance 10-12

Teri Harrington
Student Council 9-11, Softball 9-12, Legend 10-
12, Quill and Scroll 10-12 Junior Miss 11, Powder
Puff Football Game 11, 12, FLHS 11-12, Legend
Assistant Editor 12, Natural Helpers 12,

Sarah Harris
Cross Country 9-12, Swimming Team 9-10, Swim
Team Captain 12, Track 9-10, Junior Miss 11, HOSA
11, Peer Tutor 10-12, Latin Club 9-12

Jessica Hatfield
Amanda Hayes
Charlotte Heckman
Andrew Hernandez
Justin Hess
Whitney Hill



David Hinojosa
Fall Play 9-12, Spring Musical 9-11, Outstanding
Young Man 12, Academic Teams 10, National Honor
Society 11-12, Student Council 10-11, Student
Council Secretary 12, Thespians 9-10, Thespian
Vice President 11, Thespian President 12, POW
WOW 10, POW WOW Assistant Editor 11, Quill and
Scroll 10, Concert Orchestra 9, Prom Court 11,
Homecoming Court 11, Variety Show 11, Leadership
MVP 12

Steven Hojnacki
Cara Horner
Volleyball 9-12, Softball 9-12, Basketball 9, Natural
Helpers 12, Peer Tutor 10-12, Homecoming Queen
12

Jessica Houser
Jacob Huston



EVERY YEAR AT THE VARIETY SHOW THE SENIOR BOYS GET TOGETHER AND MAKE UP A ROUTINE FOR THE BRIGHAM BULLLEINERS SEGMENT. THIS YEAR THE BOYS WORKED EXTREMELY HARD AND BLEW AWAY THE AUDIENCE WITH PURE LAUGHTER.



AT ONE OF THE LAST HOME GAMES SENIOR LINDSEY WARFIELD STANDS WITH HER PROUD PARENTS ON THE FIELD FOR SENIOR NIGHT. WARFIELD ALSO GRADUATED MIDTERM WITH HONORS THIS YEAR.

ROUGH AND TOUGH THE JUNIOR AND SENIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL PLAYERS SIT ON A SEMI TRAILER DURING THE FALL HOMECOMING PARADE. THEY ENDED UP WINNING THE GAME AGAINST MICHIGAN CITY LATER THAT NIGHT.



Ashley Jalovecky

Student Council 9-10, Cheerleading 9-10, Spring Musical 9-11, Air Band 9-12, Legend 11-12, Quill and Scroll 11-12, Poms 11, Poms Letter 11, Natural Helpers 12, Writers Block 12, Choreographed Student Faculty Game Cheerleaders

Carlos Jiminez

Chris Jordan
Megan Keen
David Kendall

Latin Club 9-12, HOSA 11, Youth Government Day 12

Ashley Kirkpatrick

Elizabeth Koonec

Swimming Team 10, Poms 9, Fall Play 11, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 01, HOSA 11 12, Student Council 10-12, Natural Helpers 11-12, Thespians 11, Vocational Honor Society 11 12, Powder-puff Football Game 12

Steven Kowalczyk

Kendal Krass

Dominique Lamar



IN A PYRAMID senior Roberto
Vargas cheers to his fellow
classmates at the Fall
Homecoming pep rally. Being
the tiniest girl on the squad
gives her an advantage to
being a fury.



ALL SMILES senior Ashley
Vargas waits in line for her
diploma at mid-year
graduation. Vargas also
graduated with high honors
diploma this past January.



ONE OF THE GREATEST BONDING
EXPERIENCES A HIGH SCHOOLER
CAN BE A PART OF IS NATURAL
HELPERS. EVERYONE BECAME
EXTREMELY CLOSE DURING THE
WEEKEND RETREAT AND GAINED
MORE FRIENDSHIPS ONE PERSON
COULD ONLY WISH TO HAVE.



Ashley Lankford

David Larson

Anthony Leal

Soccer 9-11, Basketball 9-12, Basketball
Captain 12, Track 11, Outstanding Young
Man 12, Winter Homecoming Court 11, Leadership
11

Steven Leffert

Steven Lehmann

Micheal Leucuta

Brittany Lewis

Rebecca Leyba

Ashley Liebig

Samantha Lingenfelter

Spring Musical 9-11, Junior Miss 11, National Honor
Society 11-12, Natural Helpers 11 12, Concert Band
9, Marching Band 9-12, Symphonic Band 10-12,
Pep Band 9-11, Choraliars 10-12, Concert Choir 9,
Symphonic Choir 10-12





Nicole Lopez

Lee Lubbock

Athletic Trainer 9-12, Concert Choir 11, Special Olympics Basketball

Sarah Lubbock

Honor Roll 9-12

Blake Luck

Charles Mahaffey



Mitchell Mannino

SAGA 10, Variety 10-12

Heather Markwell

Cross Country 9-11, Basketball 9-12, Prom Court 12, Leadership 12, Captain of Basketball 12

Tracy Markwell

Cross Country 9-11, Basketball 9-12, Softball 9-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11

Megan Martin

Spring Musical Pit Orchestra 9, Foreign Language Honor Society 11, Concert Orchestra 10-12, French Club 9-12, French Club Vice President 11, French Club Treasurer 12, Chamber Strings Orchestra 9, Prom Committee 11, Arrowhead Ambassador 12



James Martinez

Vanessa Mayfield

Volleyball 9, Spring Musical 9, Concert band 9, Marching Band 9-10, Symphonic band 10-12, Pep Band 9, Jazz Band 10 11

Micheal McCorkle

Jacob McCorkle

Daniel McCune

Danielle McIntyre



IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SAY
TO THE UNDERCLASSMEN? SUCH AS WORDS OF
ADVICE OR A QUOTE FROM YOU TO THEM.



"DON'T LET THINGS THAT PEOPLE SAY
GET TO YOU.. JUST WORK HARD AND
DON'T GET CAUGHT UP IN GOSSIP" -
SENIOR TEM HARRINGTON

"IN MY EXPERIENCE I CAN TELL YOU ONE
IMPORTANT THING TO LEARN IS WHEN TO
STUDY AND WHEN NOT TO STUDY. MAKE
AS MANY FRIENDS AS POSSIBLE AND
DON'T TRY TO GROW UP TOO FAST" -
SENIOR MICHAEL KIRK



Every year nominees for
Homecoming court change
titles for a brief moment
and switch rolls in a
royalty court. The crowd
cheers for who they think
should win the crown during
the pep rally.



Meredith McLeod

Legend 10-12, Quill and Scroll 10-12 Legend Co-Editor 12

Jessica McWhirter

Volleyball 9-11

Brandon Melcic**Nina Mendoza**

Peer Tutor 9-12, Leadership 11

Laura Merkner

Foreign Language Honor Society 11-12, Junior Miss 2nd Runner Up 12, ACES 12, Knitting Club 12, Powder Puff Football Game 11-12

Jason Mihal**Jessica Mills****Tarin Milligan**

Foreign Language Honor Society 11, Natural Helpers 11, Concert Band 9, Symphonic Band 10-12

Timothy Mocabee**Amanda Morales**

Poms 9, Poms Letter, Fall Play 9-12, Spring Musical 9-12, Junior Miss Winner 11, Academic Team 10, Academic Hall of Fame, National Honor Society 11-12, Student Council 9-12, Student Council Representative 9-12, Natural Helpers 12, Thespians 9-12, Thespian President 9-12, Thespian Letters



OPPER WARM UPS AND BEFORE THE POWDERPUFF GAME ALL OF THE SENIOR GIRLS GOT TOGETHER FOR A GROUP PICTURE. THE GIRLS CHEERED UP DEFEATING THE JUNIOR GIRLS WITH BY AN EXTREME AMOUNT OF POINTS.



ON THE NATIONAL HELPERS FETEBOAT TWO MEMBERS OF THE RAINBOW STAFF BOTH SENIORS, BRITTANEE GELL AND SHAWN CANNON POSE FOR A PICTURE. THE RAINBOW STAFF IS CHOSEN FROM A NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE ATTENDED THE FETEBOAT.

IN THE PAST





BASKETBALL BEING THE EXTREME
SPORT THAT IT IS TAKES HARD
WORK AND DEDICATION. SENIOR
NICOLE CANTIN SHOWS BOTH AS
SHE SCORES A BASKET FOR
PORTAGE.



Brandon Morgan
Raymond Moritz
Melissa Mullin
Eric Mundt

Cross Country 9-11, Swimming Team 9-12, Swimming Captain 9-12, Track 9, Spring Musical 12, Outstanding Young Man 1st Runner up 12, National Honor Society 11-12, ACES 12, Powderpuff Football Game Coach 12, Air Band 11-12, Variety Show 12, Leadership

Mark Munro

Football 9-12, Wrestling 9-10, Vocational Honor Society 12

Charles Joseph Murphy

FLHSociety 11-12, BPA 11-12

Stephen Nagler

Micheal Nasiatka

Katie Nelson

Cross Country 9-12, Track 9-12, Junior Miss 11, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11, ACES 12, Art Club 9, Writers Block 9, Thespians 9-11, Concert Choir 9-12, Reading Club 9, Campus Life 10-12, Stage Crew 9-12, Cross Country Captain 12, Track Captain 12

Kimberly Nelson

Pow Wow 10-12, Art Club 10, Fall Play 12

Samantha Newbeck

Spring Musical 10, Chorallers 10-12, Concert Choir 9, Glee Choir 10, 12, Symphonic Choir 10-12, Peer Tutor 9, 10-12, Campus Life 9-12,

Cory Nigh

Genevieve Nimeth

Concert Orchestra 9-12, Pow Wow 10-12, Legend 12, Natural Helpers 12, Powderpuff Game 12

Bradley Norkus

Tegan Ortiz

Swimming Team Manager 9-10, FLHS 11-12, Art Club 10-11, Knitting Club 12, Reading Club 12, Multicultural Club 9-12, Campus Life 12

Athanasia Papachronis

Track 9-12, Junior Miss 11, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11-12, ACES 12, Symphonic Orchestra 9-12

Kevin Parker

Cross Country 9-12, Track 9-12, Outstanding Young Man 12, National Honor Society 12, ACES 12, Concert Band 9, Variety Show 12

Ashley Parrish

Jazz Band 9, Concert Band 9-10, FLHS 11, Campus Life 11 Symphonic Band 11-12, ACES 12

Alexander Passo

Christina Pearson

WITH A SLIGHT SMILE SERVING
ASHLEY VOLOVICK GROWNSLY
WANTS TO RECEIVE HER DIPLOMA.
VOLOVICK WILL BE ATTENDING
IUP IN THE FALL FOR THE STUDY
OF PSYCHOLOGY

**Kristina Pekovic**

Tennis 9, Academic Teams 11-12, National Honor Society 12, FLHSociety 12, VHS 11, Athletic Trainer 11, Powder Puff Football Game 12

Cara Pivarnik

Basketball 9, Softball 9 10, HOSA 11, Peer Tutor 12, Senior Girls Club 12

Alex Popplewell**Danielle Rader**

Concert Choir 9-11, Girls Glee Choir 12

David Rains**David Reisen****Joshua Rey****Kyle Ribar****Jacqueline Rice**

Spring Musical 9, Junior Miss 11, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11-12, French Club 11 12, ACES 12, Academic Teams 11-12, Academic Decathlon 11-12

Megan Richmond

Spring Musical Pit Orchestra 9, Chamber Orchestra 9, Writers Block 9-10, Marching Band 9, Art Club 9-10, Environmental Club 10, Reading Club 9, 10, Peer Tutor 9, Northwest Indiana Youth Orchestra 10-11, Chess Club 11, Concert Orchestra 10, Symphonic Orchestra 10-12, Hoosier Girls State 11, Legend 11-12, Legend Assistant Editor 12, Tae Kwon Do 12

Jason Ricker**Jessica Riffett****Christopher Rigoni****Jessica Ring**

Pow Wow 10, 12, Pow Wow Editor In Chief 12

Matthew Rio



Joshua Rodriguez

Sarah Rogers

William Ronk

John Rooney

Football 9-12, Track 9-12

Steven Rosenbaum

Football 9-10, Basketball 9-10, National Honor Society 11-12, HOSA 11, Foreign Language Honor Society 12, Vocational Honor Society, Peer Tutors, Powder Puff (Coach) 11-12, Variety Show 12, Latin Club 10-12, Leadership 12

Paige Roy

Basketball 9, Softball 9-10, Sophomore Class, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11, Student Council 9-12, Junior Class, ACES 12, Business Professionals of America 11-12, Campus Life 9-12, Homecoming Court 12, Powder-puff Football game 11-12, Arrowhead Ambassador 12

Megan Royce

Trisha Sabocki

Gymnastics 9, Diving Team 11, Cheerleading 9-11, Fall Play 11-12, Spring Musical 10-11, Junior Miss 11, Student Council Rep 9-12, Natural Helpers 11, Thespians 10-12, Prom Court 11, Homecoming Court 11-12, Air Band 12, Variety Show 10-12, Fine Arts Program Showcase 11

Amy Samplawski

Volleyball 9-12, Basketball 9-12, Softball 9-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11-12, ACES 12,

Jovanny Sanchez

Basketball 9, Pow Wow 10-12

Michael Sandage

Erica Sanetznik

Sarah Santana

Multicultural Club 9-12, Campus Life 11-12, Reading Club 12, Art Club 11-12, Environmental Club 10, Swim Team Manager 9-10

Rachael Sarson

Concert Choir 9, Student Council 9-12, Campus Life 10-11, National Honor Society 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11-12, Natural Helpers 11, Business Professionals of America 11-12, Powder-puff football game 12, ACES 12

Mark Scheuer

 
 IN THE SPRING MUSICAL SENIORS
 MARCEL SELLERS, EASHRON
 STUTLER, BRITTANY BANIC, AND
 AMANDA WID SING THE HIT
 SONG IN EVERY SONG TOOK THE
 AUDIENCE BACK TO THE 50'S
 AND 60'S.

 
**WHAT ARE THE BEST EXPERIENCES YOU HAVE
 HAD IN YOUR HIGH SCHOOL CAREER HERE AT
 PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL?**



FOOTBALL GAMES! IT WAS THE BEST PLAYING
 AND WATCHING EVERYONE IN THE CROWD CHEER
 FOR US.-MARK HALLMAN



THE BEST EXPERIENCES I HAVE HAD ARE
 THE ONES I SPENT WITH MY FRIENDS
 THROUGHOUT HIGH SCHOOL.-AMY
 SAMPLAWSKI



Ashlee Schuler

Football 9-12, Basketball 9-10, Baseball 9-11, Outstanding Young Man Helper 12, HOSA 12, Student Council 9-10, Natural Helpers 12, Film Study Club 12

Amy Shay

Student Council 11, Spanish Club 9

Matthew Shepherd

Pow Wow 10-12,

Joel Slankowski**Timothy Slatton**

Concert Orchestra 9, Spring Musical 9, 12, Symphonic Orchestra 10-12, Spanish Club 11, Academic Teams 11-12, MVP Academic Decathlon 11-12, National Honor Society 11-12, FLHS 11-12, Air Band 12, Variety Show 12, Outstanding Young Man 12, ACES 12

Emily Smith

Concert Choir 9-11, Glee Choir 11-12, Glee Choir Librarian 11-12, Student Council 11

Brett Spotten

Cross Country 9-12, Track 9-12, Outstanding Young Man 12, Vocational Honor Society 12, Variety Show 12

Philip Stammis**Jeanna Stolarz****Nicholas Sturges**

Spring Musical 9-11, Baseball 9, Outstanding Young Man 12, Choraleiros 10, Concert Choir 9, Symphonic Choir 9-12, Variety Show 9, 11

Shannon Stutler

Spring Musical 9-12, Symphonic Orchestra 9-11, Concert choir 9, Campus life 9-10, Choraleiros 10-12, Choraleiros Vice President 10-12, Symphonic Choir 10-12, Thespians 10-12, Fall Play 10-11, Junior Miss Semi Finalist 11, National Honor Society 11-12, National Honor Society President 11-12, Foreign Language Honor Society 11-12, Natural Helpers 12, ACES 12, Variety Show 12

Scott Swanson**Stephen Sweat****Sarah Tugurian****Molly Talbot****Ashley Tamietto****Micah Tilford**

Football 9-12, Basketball 9-10, Track 9, Outstanding Young Man 12, Air Band 11

Steven Trathen

Pow Wow 10-11

Rebecca Turpin

Volleyball 9, Academic Teams 11, National Honor Society 11-12, National Honor Society Secretary 12,

Clarence Underwood III

BUFF BOYS AND ALL THE SENIOR BOYS SHOW WHAT THEY HAVE TO OFFER TO THE CAMERA. MANY OF THE BOYS HAVE BEEN FRIENDS SINCE THEY WERE YOUNG AND WANTED TO SHOW THEIR TOUGH BUT SINCERE SIDE IN THIS PICTURE.



**Ashley Vargas**

Poms 9-11, Spring Musical 11, National Honor Society 12, Concert Band 9, Air Band 10-11

Roberta Vargas

Cheerleading 9-12, Gymnastics 9, Junior Miss 11, Natural Helpers 11, Student Council 9-10

Camilo Vega

Amanda Via

Antionette Vulpitta

**Joseph Wadie****Kandice Wallskog**

Art Club 11, Writers Block 12, Concert Band 9 10, Student Orchestra 9-10, Symphonic Band 11-12, Multicultural Club 11, Spanish Club 11

Heather Watson**Meredith Wheeler**

Basketball 9, Campus Life 9-12, Peer Tutor 9, Leadership 11

Rachael Whitworth

Peer Tutor 9-12, Multicultural Club 10-12, Student Council 11-12, Chairman of Powder-puff football game 11-12, Leadership 11-12, Helped with Outstanding Young Man 12, National Honor Society 12, Foreign Language Honor Society 12, Math Department Tutor 12, Chairman of Food Drive 11-12

Justin Wilbanks

Kevin Wilhelm

Randal Wilkeminger

Marissa Wright

Nathan Wright

**Kelley Yudt**

Legend 10-12, Legend Co-Editor 12, Quill and Scroll 10-12

Matthew Zaper

Concert Orchestra 9, Intermediate Orchestra 10, Symphonic Orchestra 11, Advanced Orchestra 12,

Jana Zertos

Concert Orchestra 9, Variety Show 9-12, Spring Musical 9-12, Fall Play 10-12, Thespians 10-12, Symphonic Orchestra 10-12, Student Council 12, Knitting Club 12, Vocational Honor Society 12, Performed for Junior Miss Contests 10-11



FOR THOSE LOST FROM THE SENIOR
CLASS, WE WANTED TO HAVE A
PICTURE THAT SHOWED JUST HOW
CLOSE EVERYONE REALLY WAS. ALL
THAT ONE PROVIDED HAD A BIG
IMPACT ON MANY OF THE
ACTIVITIES THE HIGH SCHOOL HAS
TO OFFER TO THEIR STUDENTS.





SENIORS NOT PICTURED

Andrew Adair
 Jason Aimitus
 Jacob Akins
 Monika Alexander
 Manuel Alicea
 Alicia Allen
 Richard Alliss
 Derek Andrews
 Jacinta Anekwe
 Krista Arvidson
 Brian Ayers
 Jessica Bailey
 Robert Bailey
 Robin Bailey
 Christopher Balding
 Aimee Bass
 Gabrielle Bassett
 Buster Battrell
 Melissa Beal
 Brandon Bement
 Brett Bermes
 Brian Blanton
 Rachel Blejski
 Zachary Bohling
 Amber Bolen
 Kaylyn Bornheim
 Laura Boskey
 Brittany Bowen
 Steven Brenan
 Jacoby Brewer
 Antoine Brown
 Jeannie Bruhn
 Kenneth Bryan
 Stephanie Bryan
 Jeffery Bucy
 Jeremy Bucy
 Samantha Burge
 Nicholas Cabanas
 Lisa Casper
 Ryan Cepolski
 Stevie Chaddock
 Sharise Chancey
 Shiela Chancey
 Kristen Clark
 Kayla Cochran
 Eli Collazo
 Jose Collazo
 Andrew Colvin
 Sadie Conover
 Adam Cook
 Brandon Council
 Philip Cowger
 Shawn Cox
 Ashley Craft
 Christina Creech
 Katelyn Davenport
 Mary Demmon
 Michael Demmon
 Staci DePriest
 Kyle Devaney
 Mitchell Diamond
 Daniel Diaz
 Angela Donohue
 Deszo Duerr
 Stefanie Durkin
 Kristian Edders
 Anthony Edwards
 Leroy Edwards

Tiffany Efantis
 Kelly Elsey
 Anthony Espinoza
 Brittany Esposito
 William Evans
 Stephen Evola
 Andrew Fletter
 Michael Ford
 Lauren Foye
 Kali Foyteck
 Steven Frye
 Gina Gabioan
 Alex Gallegos
 Shaun Gannon
 Sharon Gaul
 James Geary
 Samantha Gembalia
 Amber Gentry
 Dominique Gibson
 Samantha Giorgi
 Ryan Gonzalez
 Tahana Good
 Steven Gossett
 Gregory Graczuk
 Sarah Gramhofer
 David Granillo
 Monica Green
 Daniel Grindey
 Neal Guidarelli
 Tiffany Gurski
 Genesis Guzman
 Jacqueline Hagan
 Jonathan Halfmann
 Christina Hancock
 Nathan Hand
 Patrick Hand
 Lisa Hansen
 Matthew Helpinstine
 John Hennessy
 Joshua Henry
 Andrew Hernandez
 Crystal Herr
 John Hesseltine
 Brie Hettrick
 Mary Horvath
 Jeremy Hostetter
 Rebecca Hostetter
 Peter Hubbard
 James Huckabee
 Heather Hufgard
 Eugene Irizarry
 Marko Ivanovic
 Jennifer Jacobs
 James Jadrych
 Amanda Jancaric
 Darko Jasnic
 Steven Johnson
 Jay Jones
 Marc Jones
 Audrey Kalman
 Amanda Kapalko
 Albert Kaufmann
 Joel Keel
 Brad Kemp
 Adam Kilgore
 Michael Kirk
 Danny Kladis
 Jennifer Knudsen

John Kornacki
 Steven Kranick
 Dana Krenkel
 Danae Krenkel
 Robert Krooswyk
 Michael Kushnerof
 Michael Ladendorf
 Richard Layba
 Robert Leib
 Michael Leith
 Brandon Lewis
 Rebecca Leyba
 Jeremy Ling
 Eric Loeffler
 Rebecca Loeffler
 Jessica Ludwig
 Jaime Luedtke
 Elizabeth Malast
 Ivan Malik
 Jennifer Manning
 Brandon Marcotte
 Shariliz Martinez
 Thomas Mayoch
 Eric Mays
 Ashley Mazur
 Zachary Mazur
 Kimberly McClellan
 Thomas McClellan
 Monica McCormick
 Eric McGann
 Romika McQueen
 Christopher Meanovich
 Sean Meehan
 Joseph Mendoza
 Meghan Mesich
 William Messer
 Rebecca Meyers
 Vanessa Minard
 Steven Mitre
 Erin Mitts
 Jennifer Mola
 Ryan Mueller
 Alex Mulherin
 Charles Munsell
 Nedal Naban
 Daniel Nowaczyk
 Sarah Orlich
 Michelle Otero
 Ryan Palmer
 Michael Parker
 Michelle Parker
 Tiare Parker
 Melissa Pawelko
 Jennifer Perrine
 Matthew Plummer
 Dean Pontjeris
 Joanna Prassas
 LaTisha Pride
 Stephanie Pugh
 Stephan Puskac
 William Rager
 Brandy Reiner
 Jacob Reynolds
 Keith Rhodes
 Aaron Riley
 Kyle Riley
 Nathaniel Ritchie
 Milton Rivera

Tony Rivera
 Tonya Robbins
 Erica Rodriguez
 Nicole Rodriguez
 Nina Rodriguez
 Yesenia Rodriguez
 Joshua Rosendaul
 Brandon Rowton
 Louis Ruvalcaba
 Steven Sabich
 Alfredo Sanchez
 Damon Sanchez
 Natasha Schaefer
 Michael Schmitz
 Amanda Schreiber
 Steven Schultz
 James Scobey
 Christy Scott
 Maribel Sellers
 Scott Shannon
 Christopher Sholar
 Eric Silva
 Denise Singh
 Jesse Sklarz
 Joel Slamkowski
 Ashley Smith
 Paige Smith
 Nicholas Spasoff
 Ronald Spear
 Ashley Sprague
 David Staples
 Stephanie Stasi
 Lynda Stinson
 Jessica Szabo
 Jennifer Tauber
 Darren Thompson
 Catelin Tibbets
 Shaun Tooze
 Robert Tuesburg
 John Tuomi
 Jessica Valle
 Donald Vander Wal
 Craig Vargas
 Vinicius Vasconcelos
 Eric Vasquez
 Rachel Vasquez
 Luis Villarreal
 Josette Villegas
 Amanda Wadkins
 Jennifer Waite
 Lindsey Warfield
 Daniel Warren
 Christina Webber
 Jennifer Weimer
 Joshua Whalen
 Jean Wiatrowski
 Erick Wilczynski
 Garrett Willis
 Jason Willis
 Kimberly Woodard
 David Wright
 Melody Young
 Nancy Zukutansky
 Blake Zaragoza
 Daniel Zemlik

JUNIOR

Rock & Roll
Rock and Roll
Rock & Roll
Rock and Roll

Rock & Roll
and Roll

Rock & Roll
and Roll

Rock & Roll
and Roll

Christine Abram
Ashley Ackermann
Scott Adams
Jacob Ahlborn
Rene Alaniz
Amber Albrecht
Radley Delbert Alcantara
Christopher Allmandinger



Samantha Amore
Jacob Anderson
Rochelle Anderson
Richard Arndt
Jessica Bannister
Aaron Barnes
Katherine Barnes
Brittany Barnett

Natacha Basile
Katherine Batista
Aaron Beeson
Brittany Bennett
Nolan Berger
Scott Biggs
Brandon Biller
Christina Blackwell

Jared Blatsioris
Ashley Blonski
Samantha Bodish
Michael Bodnar
Ruby Bolint
Angela Boor
Whitney Bowen
Whitney Bowman

Jacob Boykin
Paul Braden
Kayla Brooks
Joshua Brown
Tiffany Brunner
Michael Burke
Adrian Bustos
Christopher Camery

Brandon Campbell
Jessica Carrasco
Megan Cary
Sarah Cates
Amber Chaja
Dominic Cherekpo
Casey Claxton
Alisha Cletcher

April Clowers
Adam Cody
Cristen Coffey
Stephanie Coffman
Joseph Cole
Erick Colunga
Brent Cook
Christopher Cook

Sarah Cooper
Tiffany Cooper
Nathan Cordova
Nolan Corlett
Anthony Costa
Gabriel Covell
Joceline Covell
Jeremy Crandall

Cassandra Creech
Michaelleen Creviston
Alex Crist
Cheryl Crowder
Paul Cruse
Gregory Curiel
Michelle Curtel
Alan Daily

Terrence Danapas
Allison Dault
Buck Davich
Jeremy Davies
Ashley Davis
Danyelle Davis
Lindsey Davis
Rebekah Davis

THE ROAD TO PROM



2006 Prom booth. First ever prom! This was our first year to have a booth in the hallway for people to stop by.

There are several ways to get to the prom. You can go by car, bus, train, plane, boat, or even by bicycle. Some people prefer to walk, while others prefer to drive. No matter how you choose to get there, make sure you have fun!



2006 Prom booth. First ever prom! This was our first year to have a booth in the hallway for people to stop by.



All have
the
right
to
be
safe
and
respected.
Prom
is
a
time
of
celebration
and
fun.
It
should
not
be
a
time
of
violence
or
abuse.
If
you
are
being
abused,
please
call
the
National
Domestic
Violence
Hotline
at
1-800-787-3224.

Randall Dawkins
Cory Dehnart
Adriana Delreal
Tasha Demaria
Benjamin Destjean
Stephen Devaney
Cody Dexter
Shane Dixon



Alexandria Fernandez
James Field
Matthew Fifield
Abby Fink
James Flannery
Thomas Foley
Christen Frank
Kylie Frank



At the fall homecoming pep rally, juniors Powell Russell and Nicole Sotoevario, as well as the activities board members, were in charge of running the pep rally. The cheerleaders, as well as seniors, the tennis team, performers, and the football team and the homecoming nominees entered the gymnasium.

As the day comes to a close, junior Priscilla Carter takes a moment to take in all of the sights and sounds of the pep rally. Carter, in her second year of Torontoville classes, has been an organized individual since taking part in 20 hours of community service and helping out in the surrounding areas.





At the 3rd annual concert at our local community school, students welcome the 2006 football team as they enter the gymnasium. It is customary for the school to hold an annual program coincident to the pep up the students as well as the players participating in the big game.

With 2006 senior Mrs. Billie, our music teacher, on the left, students perform during Stephano's senior blues band. Stephano's band consists of students playing different instruments, with Stephano instrumental being the only way to completely master the art of blues such an unusual instrument.



Kimberly Frazier
Shawna Freeman
Joseph Gainer
Courtland Gaines
Ashley Ganske
Jason Garcia
Stephanie Garner
Justin Garza

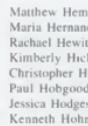
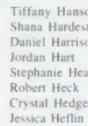
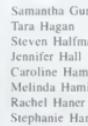
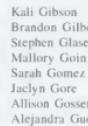
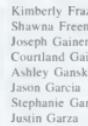
Kali Gibson
Brandon Gilbert
Stephen Glaser
Mallory Goin
Jaclyn Gore
Allison Gossett
Alejandra Guerrero

Samantha Gurley
Tara Hagan
Steven Halfman
Jennifer Hall
Caroline Hamann
Melinda Hamilton
Rachel Haner
Stephanie Hanna

Tiffany Hanson
Shana Hardesty
Daniel Harrison
Jordan Hart
Stephanie Healy
Robert Heck
Crystal Hedger
Jessica Heflin

Matthew Henry
Maria Hernandez
Rachael Hewitt
Kimberly Hickman
Christopher Higgins
Paul Hobgood
Jessica Hodges
Kenneth Hohneck

Stephanie Hood
Christopher Hoover
Alison Horner
Blair Horner
Ronell Hulse
Tayler Hussain
Alyssa Ingram
Thomas Ivey



Winter Homecoming is an exciting time for many, especially the nominees for prince, princess, king and queen. Here, two prince nominees, Eric Dugay and Kendall Johnson, wait for the results to then move to become the next winter homecoming prince for the 2004-2005 year.

Felix with 2004 maturity award. St. Thomas' Garter bites his neck in anticipation of the outcome of The Game. The game was made a tradition by St. Thomas' parents in 1992. Last year, there was an excellent game, so great, that it became the most talked about at school, a wonderful and fun-filled event.



Kyle Jacobs
Troy Jankik
Alicia Jarosak
Brenten Jenks
Veronica Jimenez
Robin Johnson
Nicole Jones
Shannon Jones

Gordana Jovanoski
Timothy Juchciwski
Whitney Taylore Keeling
Jessica Keene
Nathan Kellams
Amber Kemp
Benjamin Kerezman
Sarah Kiriniec

Sheri Kiszkun
Nicole Klimczuk
Megan Knudsen
Natalie Kovachevich
Nickolas Kozik
Kristoffer Kremke
Christopher Labno
Alycia Laboy



WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR UNDERCLASSMEN?

"Don't watch Channel One, use it to sleep or to do homework you didn't finish the night before."

ALYCIA LABOY, JUNIOR



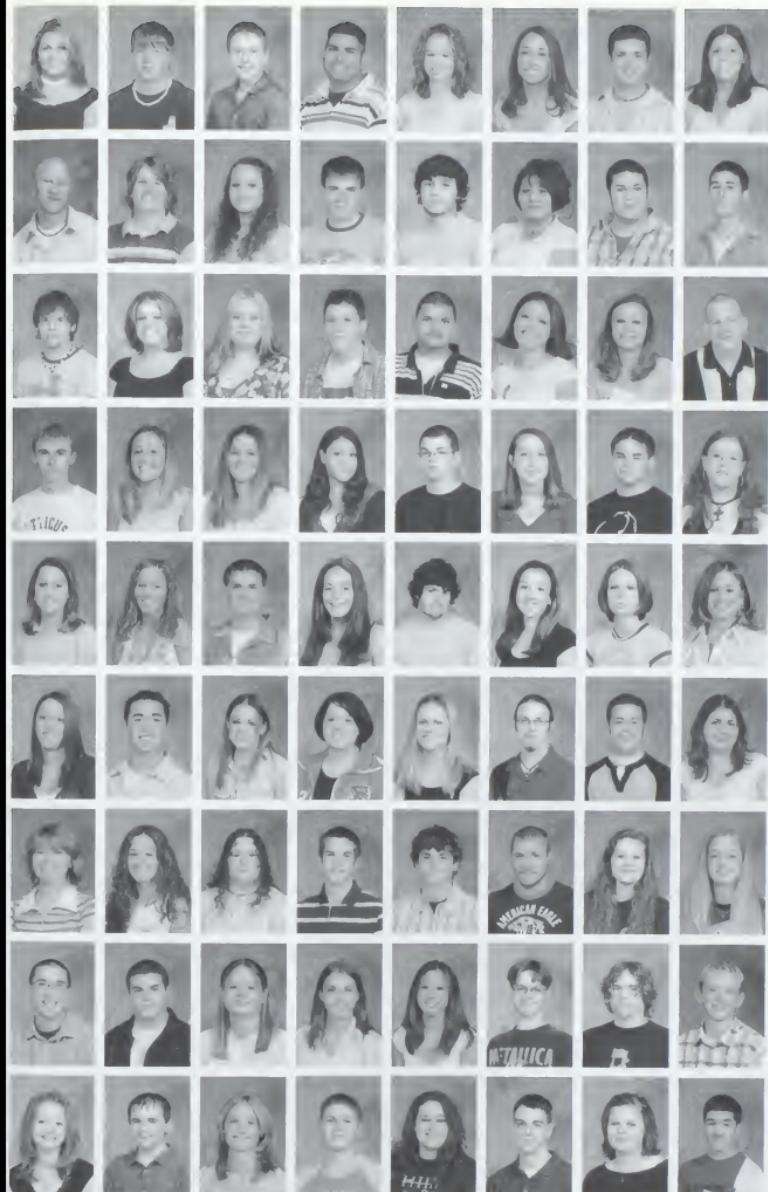
"Do your work and don't be ridiculous by partying all the time because while it is fun now living in a cardboard box is not."

ASHLEY DALIS, JUNIOR

"Take AP English with Mr. Kolyuksi. You'll get to spend three terms with the most amazing two ladies."

ALEXANDRA STEWART, JUNIOR





Colette Langbauer
Ronald Lapine
Daniel Lasky
Raul Leal
Kristen Lee
Danielle Leimbach
Donald Lentz
Camille Lewandowski

Nathan Lewis
Robert Liesch
Jessica Lombardo
Christopher Longo
Aaron Lopez
Christina Lopez
Andres Magana
Mark Magana

Thomas Marion
Viera Marjanov
Victoria Marsh
Jeremiah Martin
Christopher Martinez
Claudia Martinez
Britany Massom
Chance Matthews

Raymond Mauch
Autumn McCormick
Brittany McCready
Kayla McCurdy
Jeremy McDonald
Hannah McKee
Thattus McMurray
Victoria Meanovich

Allysse Medanich
Samantha Meints
Ross Menclicz
Kristin Mendez
Anthony Mendizabal
Alicia Mendoza
Stephanie Merket
Jessica Metz

Sara Mikenas
Jonathan Miller
Jessica Mitchell
Katie Moehl
Nikita Momola
David Montgomery
Joseph Morales
Yolanda Morin

Jennifer Mose
Natalie Moyado
April Mullins
Brendan Mulroe
Christopher Murray
David Murray
Sara Mustafa
Kristen Myers

Matthew Myers
Manuel Nardini
Jacklyn Neace
Nicole Nelson
Tuong Nguyen VI
Christopher Nichols
Ryan Nichols
Bryan Norkus

Ashley Norman
Jordan Oakes
Sara Olson
Richard O'Reilly
Mande Paniaguas
Joseph Pankiewicz
Crystal Passamanti
Eric Patrick

Justin Pedro
Rachel Pekar
Svetlana Pekovic
Anthony Pennington
Felicia Penrose
Jose Perez
Krista Perry
William Peterson



Ryke Pfeiffer
Christopher Phillips
Rami Piers
Michelle Plotke
Bryan Priest
Emily Pruijn
Ashley Pullen
Matthew Purcell



Raymond Purdy
Crystal Raber
Rachael Ramirez
Drew Ramsey
Mandy Rance
Mallory Rappatia
Timothy Ray
Kimberly Redden



Rachel Reed
Andrew Repay
Nathan Reynolds
Erik Rhein
Brittany Rigoni
Toni Riley
Jeffrey Robb
Alicia Robinson



Kristopher Robinson
Crystal Rodriguez
Meghan Rodriguez
Timothy Rodriguez
Daniel Rogers
Courtney Rogers-Sult
Matthew Rose
April Rousseau



WAS YOUR
JUNIOR YEAR
HOW YOU
EXPECTED IT
TO BE ?



"Of course junior year was more than I expected because I am so low that if I fall, I won't even notice."

DAVID MONTGOMERY, JUNIOR



"I think it was better than I expected, especially since I have been involved in the Junior Class Club."

ASHLEY URBANEK, JUNIOR

"Yes, it was because it has been the most educational and fun-filled year yet."

NICOLE NELSON, JUNIOR



"No, I honestly thought it would be more challenging because of the expectations passed on to me from the seniors."

RACHEL KANICH, JUNIOR

At the senior musical "Highway 20's Cool", junior Mallie Gordon and junior Nicole Gosselin were instrumental. Both Gordon and Gosselin will participate in numerous musicals together during their high school careers, including last year's "Grease".





Classroom is important for many students who do not see each other very often to catch up on the exciting moments in their lives. Here, a group of junior girls talk and laugh as they can and recall the various events of the past week spent with friends and family.

Eric Ruiz
Lindsey Russ
Lauren Ruzga
Amanda Sable
Ashley Sandlin
Kristie Sandoval
Jeffrey Sattler
Sarah Scharpf

Benjamin Schiller
Lisa Schima
James Schneider
Trina Schneider
Amanda Scholz
Kelly Schoon
Colleen Scott
John Searer

Brooke Sechrest
Nicole Seefeldt
Michele Serrano
John Serrato
Jamie Shay
Michelle Shearer
Aaron Shebesh
Terry Shepherd

Joshua Shippen
Katerina Sikakosova
Rosalinda Singer
Michael Sinkus
Mitch Slowik
Jennifer Smith
Jennifer Smith
Nathan Smith

Nathaniel Sosa
Wendy Spacek
Jennifer Spence
Joshua Stanley
Alisha Stark
Stephanie Starr
Amanda Stasik
Alexandra Stewart

Christina Stewart
Andrew Stills
William Stoll
Randi Stone
Alexis Strbac
Kenneth Sullivan
Alexander Supp
Michael Suthers

Kaitlyn Talley
Samantha Tamper
Stephanie Tanis
Brandy Targgart
Leah Taylor
Eric Tellez
Eric Tharp
Megan Tiernan



At a FCCLA meeting, seniors Kewa Smith and Brittany Bogen have a snack composed of cookies. The FCCLA meets every two weeks and participates in many activities to learn about volunteerism. This organization has organized to allow students to take part to help in their community.

Bethel Academic Union Guitar Club begins senior Cody Decker takes time to practice his guitar to perfection. Hard work and determination are what it takes to become an experienced and skilled guitarist. It can take months over a year to learn techniques and compositions.



How do you feel knowing you are closer to graduating?



"Graduation is both exciting and scary. I can't wait until college, but I'm nervous about leaving my friends and everything that is familiar."

Samantha Tampier, junior



"I am extremely happy because I know that I won't have to get up and come here any more at six something in the morning."

Robert Liesch, junior

Joseph Tinsley
Alexander Tokarski
Robert Tomas
David Tomaszewski
Francisco Torres
Brock Townsend
Robert Trout
Jordan Tuthill



Ashley Urbaneck
Darren Urquidi
Gabriel Valtierra
Leticia Vazquez
Adam Velez
Tyler Vincent
Nicholas Walla
Adam Walters



Mark Weber
Kimberly Weiland
Nicole Weldon
Brandon Welshan
Megan Wenger
Shauna Wetmore
Lisa Whitworth
Quentin Wilborn



Katie Wilk
Jeffrey Wilken
Scott Willett
Brittany Williams
Jessica Williams
Norman Williams
Sarah Williams
Zackery Williams

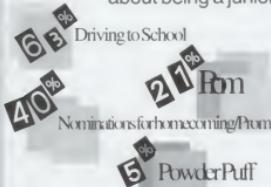




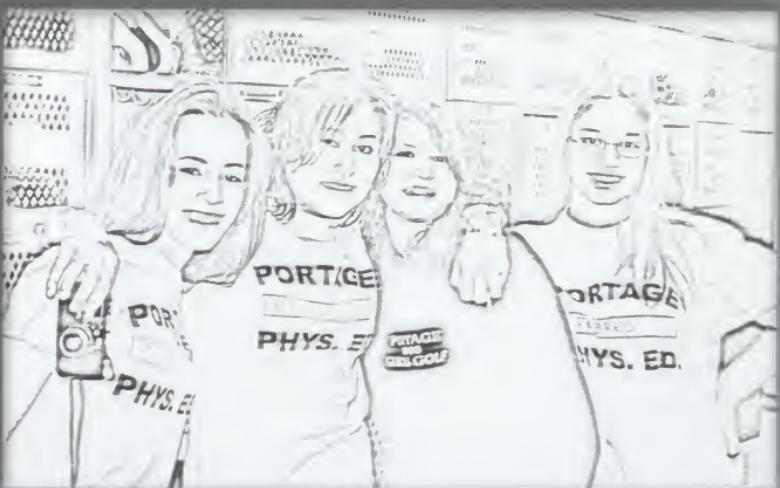
Actors, Nevaeh Sizemore, and
Alyssa Vassallo perform the oil
field play "Specialist". They are focusing
intently on their dialogue. The
play was performed on three
consecutive nights in
November and all actors
performed to the best of
their ability each and
every night.

While at a salsa dancing
presentation, Sophomores
Natalie Echols, and senior's
Carmen Giraldo and Jessica
Corliss dance away. The evening
presentation was sponsored
by the multi-cultural club
so the students could
experience the world of
a different culture.

What was the best part
about being a junior?



Branden Wilson
James Wring
Nicole Yates
Michael York
Olivia Zamarron
Zachary Zygowicz



SOPHOMORE - A - SKETCH

CLASS OF 2007

Christopher Abram
Garrett Abronitis
Kaitlin Alvey
Andrea Amstein
Danielle Andrews
Audrey Arnold
Victoria Arwood
Samantha Austin



Nicole Ayala
Natalie Baccarelli
Jordan Bailey
Ross Bailey
Stephanie Bain
Holly Banic
Herbie Barker
Heather Barlow



Robert Barnas
Ashley Bartolac
Meghan Bauer
Nathan Beal
Kylie Beaudreau
Jessica Bedford
Brittney Beers



Amy Bell
Michael Benjamin
Casey Berger
Britnee Berman
Brooks Bermes
Dino Bernardi
Noah Berquist
Trisha Berryman





Erica Boggess
Amanda Boldin
Rachael Bolen
Sarah Bool
Tammi Bordelon
Robert Borowski
Aimee Bottorff
Catlyn Boucher



Melissa Bowen
Tara Bowen
Brian Bowles
Thomas Boyer
Amanda Bridges
Betsy Brown
Steven Brown
Casey Bryan



Jeanne Brys
Kelsey Burr
Magen Burress
Andrew Bustos
Brandon Butera
Natalie Butler
Cassandra Cain
Theresa Caluag



Tiffany Caluag
Sarah Cannon
Danielle Carrithers
Justine Carlotta
Ashley Carns
Shannon Carroll
Corrine Castillo
Michelle Castrejon



Javier Chabes
Brittini Chambers
Scott Cherry
Samantha Childers
Kelly Christian
Rachel Christian
Kari Cieszkiewicz
Nicole Clark



Andrew Coban
Franklin Cole
Sophia Coleman
Samantha Colon
Krista Conley
Timothy Cook
Alyson Cox
Jeremiah Cox



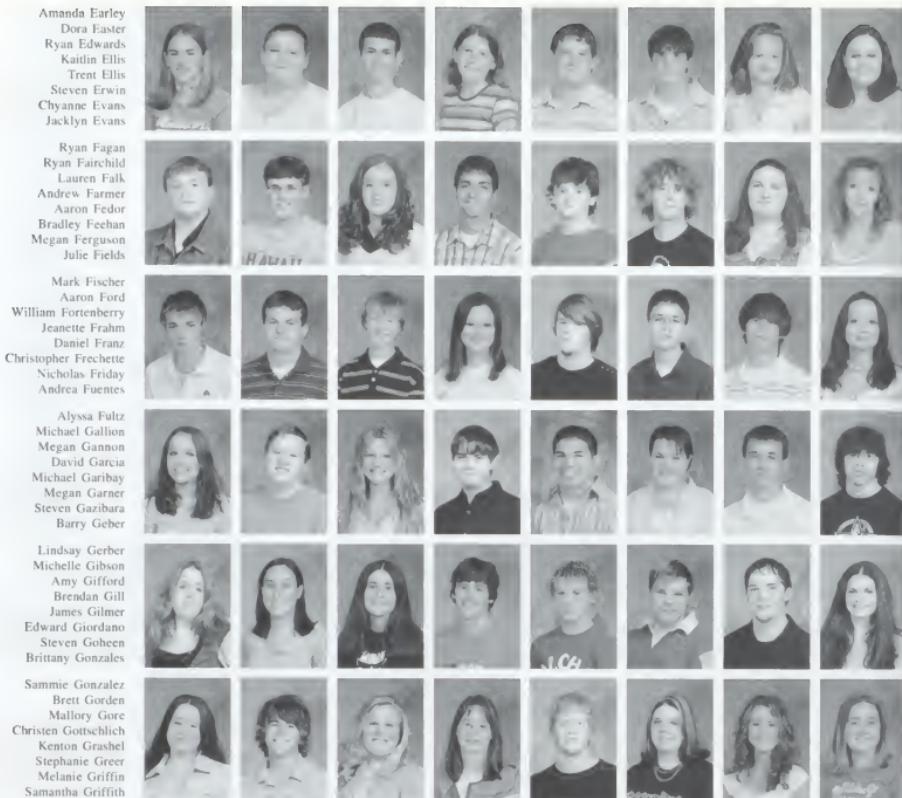
Kristen Cox
Sarah Craig
Jason Creech
Robert Creech
Joseph Cruz
Teagan Daily
Steven Damon
Jessica Davidson



Tiffany Davies
Adam Davis
Jordan Davis
Lyndsey Deavers
Keira Degenier
Jennifer Delacruz
Brittany Delurco
Cassandra Dessauer



Jessie Dexter
Kristan Deyoung
Derek Diehl
Jessica Dienes
Michael Disney
Kyle Doan
Anthony Donohue
Monique Duran



A lot of 80's shows and characteristics of the 80's are coming back are you into the 80's comeback

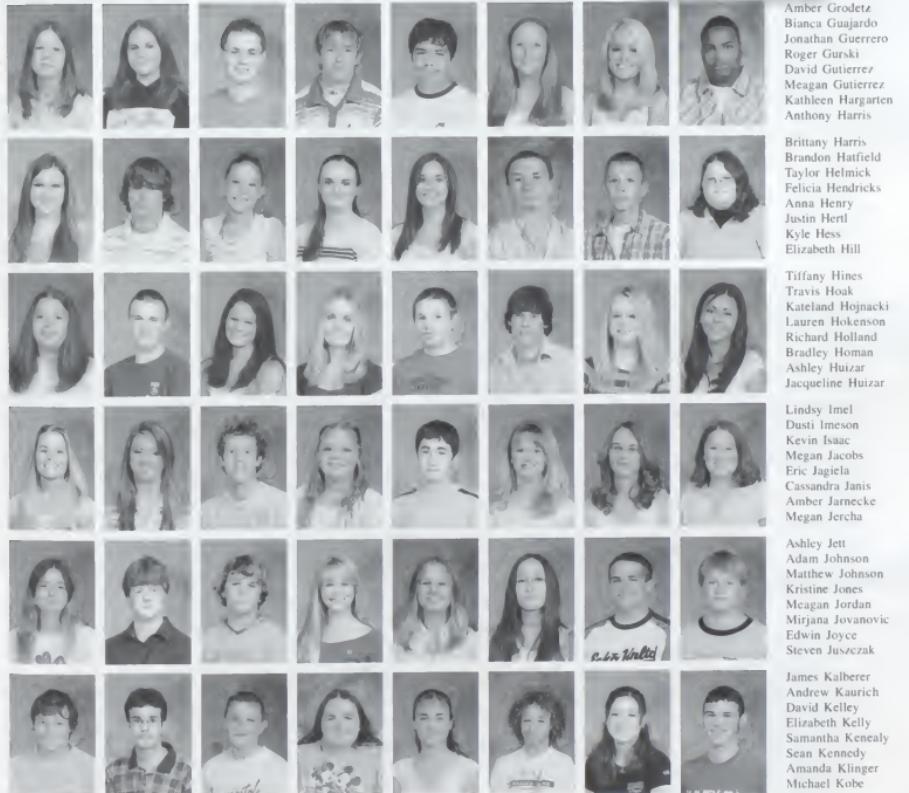
"I love the 80's comeback. I am very much into it. It was a great decade and my parents grew up in it. I would love to experience the 80's. I mean I was born in 1988 so I was too young then to really remember anything about it," said Briefer Ayers.

"I really like the comeback of like leg warmers and chunky jewelry, but I don't think that our decade is copying the 80's. We have our own decade that we are combining with other decades like the 80's with this one," said Shannon Cenrou.





Before
the Fall Play's
performance
of *Diecule*, sophomore
Chris Thoen gets eye
liner put on. The eyeliner
is put on to help see
his eyes and face
expressions.



Amber Grodetz
Bianca Guajardo
Jonathan Guerrero
Roger Gurski
David Gutierrez
Meagan Gutierrez
Kathleen Hargarten
Anthony Harris

Brittany Harris
Brandon Hatfield
Taylor Helmick
Felicia Hendricks
Anna Henry
Justin Herli
Kyle Hess
Elizabeth Hill

Tiffany Hines
Travis Hoak
Kateland Hojnacki
Lauren Hokenson
Richard Holland
Bradley Homan
Ashley Huizar
Jacqueline Huizar

Lindsay Imel
Dusti Imeson
Kevin Isaac
Megan Jacobs
Eric Jagiela
Cassandra Janis
Amber Jarnecke
Megan Jercha

Ashley Jett
Adam Johnson
Matthew Johnson
Kristin Jones
Meagan Jordan
Mirjana Jovanovic
Edwin Joyce
Steven Juszczak

James Kalberer
Andrew Kaurich
David Kelley
Elizabeth Kelly
Samantha Kenealy
Sean Kennedy
Amanda Klinger
Michael Kobe

Brittney Koecke
Heather Koller
Austin Konchar
Lauren Konyk
Samantha Kostelnik
Derek Kozik
Amanda Krga
Samantha Labno



Luke Ladra
Lindsay Lambert
Kyle Lamping
Valerie Lane
Tiffany Larson
Brittany Laverty
Amanda Lee
Steven Lentz



Stacy Levack
Jessica Lewis
Sarah Lewis
Hannah Lindstrom
Casey Lipe
Joseph Loewe
Lawrence Long
David Longfellow



Christina Longstreet
Erika Lopez
Jonathan Lopez
Jacoby Lowe
Amanda Luna
Joshua Maddack
Johnathan Mahaffey
Kayla Maldonado



Dawn Mardis
Robert Markos
Cecilia Martinez
Raphael Martinez
Jeremy Marton
Dynel Matvia
Maria Mausser
Joe Mayfield



Top 10 Favorite 80s Movies

1. Breakfast Club
2. Footloose
3. Dazed and Confused
4. Pretty in Pink
5. 16 Candles
6. Die Hard
7. Flashdance
8. Ferris Bueller's Day Off
9. Weird Science
10. Look Who's Talking



At lunch time
Ken Grana decides
whether or not to drink
his milk. In the end he
realizes it's already
gone.



80s events

1. Reagan was elected
2. Mt. Saint Helen erupts
3. Pac Man seizes the nation
4. MTV is launched
5. NASA releases 1st space shuttle
6. Michael Jackson-Thriller
7. Ozzy bites head off of a bat
8. CDs were released for the 1st time
9. Black and Hispanic Barbie's were introduced
10. Ghandi assassinated
11. Discovery of AIDS
12. New coke introduced
13. 1st Madonna tour
14. Fall of the Berlin Wall



80s games

1. Trivia pursuit
2. Hackey Sack
3. Uno
4. Space invaders
5. Pac Man
6. Frogger
7. Tetris
8. Arcades
9. Nintendo 64
10. Donkey Kong

At an important game, sophomore Kevin Ramon stands still to listen to the referee. The referee is deciding whether or not their team will be called on a foul.

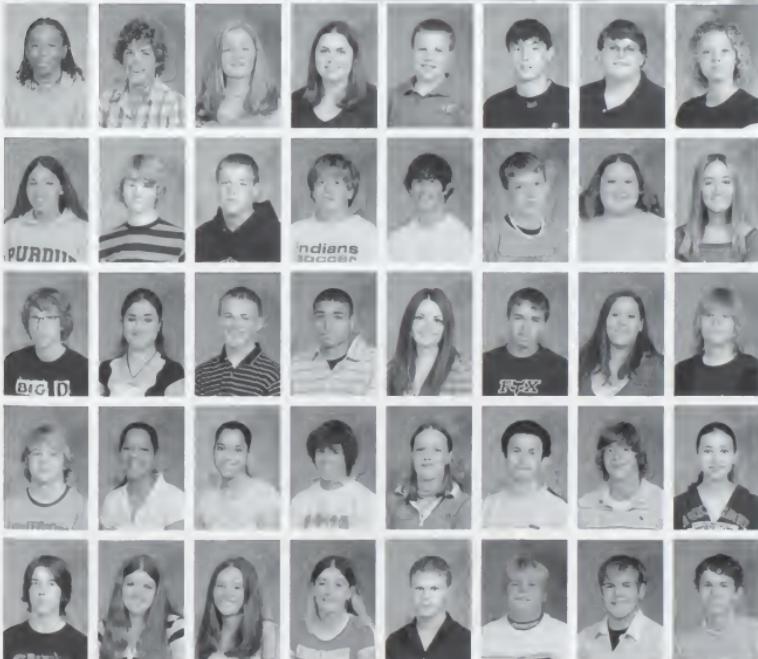
Joshua McCarley
Kyle McCormack
Alicia McMurray
Kelly McNear
Michael McNiskin
Justin McNorton
Daniel Melican
Brandy Mergl

Lorena Merifield
Daniel Meyer
Tejay Mihal
Ryan Miller
Joseph Miller
Donald Mills
Christina Mischanko
Sara Mischke

Zachary Montez
Nastasia Monzon
Michael Moore
Enrique Moran
Megan Moran
Michael Morris
Brittany Morrison
Christopher Moss

Christopher Moss
Rubyia Multani
Sukhmani Multani
Max Mulvihill
Kassandra Mulzon
Alexander Munoz
Reece Mussman
Jasmine Nadolski

Matthew Nadolski
Christina Nasiatka
Samantha Nearn
Tera Nelson
Christopher Nevil
Kalan Nigh
Kenneth Nolan
Grant Norris



80s slang

1. like
2. awesome
3. chill pill
4. don't have a cow
5. dude
6. gag me with a spoon
7. freak me out
8. gnarly
9. no duh
10. omigod
11. psych
12. stellar

In class,
sophomores Tiffany
Davies and Jonathon
Guerrero listen intently.

They find the
teacher is very
interesting and
knowledgeable.



Michael Oprisko
Melissa Overmyer
Jeffrey Owens
Amanda O'Brien
Rachel Pacolt
Joseph Park
Breanna Patillo
Avery Pearman



Tommy Peeler
Colette Pennington
Daniel Perez
Kielly Perkins
Carolyn Peters
Justin Pezel
Brandon Phillips
Stephanie Phipps



Jurgen Pierce
Holli Piers
Danielle Pleschala
Aubrie Piro
Lauren Pirowski
Alexandra Prassas
Ashley Privett
Bryan Radakovich

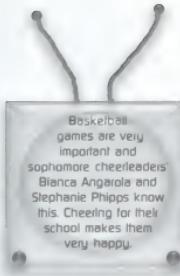


Eric Ramian
Kevin Ramian
Pedro Ramos
Mark Rapo
Nicholas Rasco
Vincent Razo
Brittney Reges
Brian Reynolds



Kelsey Richards
Danielle Richardson
Heidi Richie
Larry Riffett
Rebecca Riggle
Dalton Rinehart
Paul Rio
Julia Rios





Who is your Favorite Teacher

"My favorite teacher has to be Mrs. Martin-Smith. She always made me feel better with humor, but I would also have to say that Mr. Wolfman is my second. I love his Russian accent and circus moves. He also taught me how to balance a meter stick on my foot." Said Ashley Carns.



Tony Rios
Alicia Rivera
Emily Robbins
Matthew Robbins
Latrice Robinson
Jessica Rocha
Melinda Rodgers
Justine Rodriguez

Jasmine Rodriguez
Beth Rosas
Stephanie Rosenbaum
Tyler Rosenbaum
Jeremy Rossi
Keith Roy
James Rudzewicz
Melissa Russell

Catherine Rybecki
Jack Salicete
Krystle Sanchez
Richard Sandage
Amber Sanders
Sarah Sanders
Walter Sarnowski
Sabrina Sciegel

Kevin Schick
Kate Schreiber
Kristi Schultz
Amanda Sedors
Anthony Seigh
Jiovani Serrano
Benjamin Shadley
Kevin Shelton

Brian Shreve
Jessica Sievers
Amber Sims
Theresa Singh
Jessica Siple
Jessica Skalka
Victoria Skubish
Erin Sloane

Kyle Slusher
Hannah Smith
Leighann Smith
Michael Sobierajski
Allegra Solis
Amanda Somers
Danielle Sommers
Ashley Sosa



Eric Speer
Tyler Spoelstra
Katelyn Stanfield
Alexander Stanley
Kristin Stanley
Jason Stearns
Nathaniel Stearns
William Andrew Stearns



Audrey Stone
Diamond Stringer
Cody Suggs
Kristen Sullins
Thomas Sullivan
Daniel Talbot
Cody Thiel
Robert Thomason



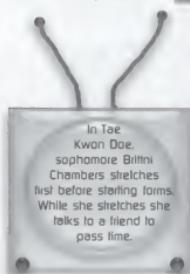
Vickie Thomason
Ricky Thompson
Sheila Thompson
Christopher Thorn
Michael Todosevic
Sean Toomey
Jaclyn Tratar
Peter Trinidad



Erik Twilla
Kayla Tykla
Natalie Vahary
Kelsi Van Wormer
Charles Vanover
Lawrence Vaughan
Andrew Veatch
David Vivian



Kyle Vottero
Ryan Vottero
Felicia Vucko
Theresa Vulpitta
James Webb
Leonora Whiting
Ashleigh Whitten
Zachary Willfond



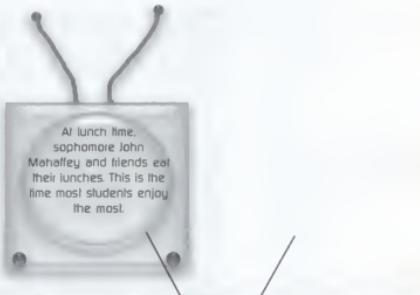
80s Fads

1. arcades
2. baby on board stickers
3. bonnie bell make-up
4. cell phones
5. Michael Jackson
6. neon nail polish
7. Polaroid cameras
8. records and 8-tapes
9. Top Gun mania
10. WWF



Nichole Williams
Owen Williams
Cortie Wilson
Karissa Wilson
Nathaniel Wise
Ashley Wood
Mack Wozniak
Lauren Wright

Nicole Wright
Rachel Wyatt
Amanda York
Joshua Young
Laura Zack
Melissa Zmierski
Jacob Zuidervliet



At lunch time, sophomore John Mahaffey and friends eat their lunches. This is the time most students enjoy the most.

Our favorite teachers

(polled by 5 sophomore classes)

1. Mr. Bodnar	6. Mr. Moody
2. Ms. Peda	7. Mrs. Slomkowski
3. Mr. Hall	8. Mrs. Martin-Smith
4. Mr. Wolfman	9. Mr. Merrill
5. Mr. Tharp	10. Mr. Zartman



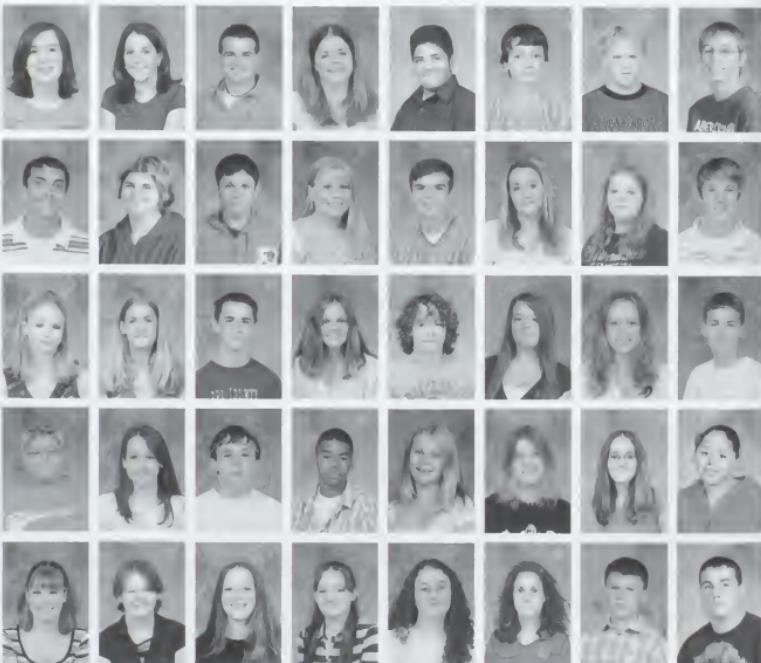
Do you think that music now is like the music in the 80s?
"I think some bands like The Darkness and Bowling for Soup are knock offs of certain 80's bands," said Karissa Wilson.

How much do you think we have changed since the 80s?
"Since the 80's we have moved on in the way people think, we also have a lot of new music and technology," said Eddie Joyce.



FRESHMAN MADE IN EIGHTY-NINE

Leah Adams
Rita Ahlborn
Thomas Albee
Courtney Alexander
Fernando Alvarez
Christopher Amore
Peter Anderson
Darrell Anderson



Edward Arteaga
Rhonda Ashford
Daniel Avina
Shauna Ball
Zachary Barker
Brittney Barnett
Amanda Barret
Ivan Bateman

Amanda Bates
Courtney Beach
Bracy Bean
Mara Bears
Loudia Becker
Carol Belleville
Jasmine Belmont
Robert Bennett

Brian Bevil
Carrie Biggs
Kyle Blair
Jeremy Blake
Amy Blakely
Samuel Bloom
Richelle Bolinger
Erica Bonia

Stephanie Bowman
Megan Braden
Tae Bramer
Deanna Brantley
Emily Brennan
Elizabeth Brown
Michael Brutout
Joshua Bryant



Lindsay Burbee
Tonya Butala
Brittany Buzea
Brandi Cain
Angelica Camacho
Jennifer Campbell
Daniel Capron
Carolina Carattini

Nicholas Cardenas
Graham Cardwell
Andreaanna Carnell
John Carpenter
Jessica Carson
Victoria Chavez
Steffanie Christian
Autumn Clarida

Stephen Clark
Kristin Clem
Logan Cloyd
Anthony Cocarro
Douglas Coffman
Grace Coleman
Allie Collins
Kevin Compass

Darren Conley
Andrea Conroy
Natalie Coots
Briecanna Coppinger
Jessica Cox
Rachel Crase
Chad Crie
Kathryn Crook

Kyle Trout
Christopher Crowder
Beth Croy
Jacob Crozier
Jeffrey Cunningham
Kathleen Curiel
Lauren Curran
Morgan Currin

Amy Cupryn
Tiffany Davies
Angela Dees
Anna Deflorio
Kristina Deleon
Daniel Delgado
Amy Delturco
Edward Derr

Paige Devore
Timothy Diamond
William Doll
Nicholas Dove
Meghan Doyle
Mary Dreckman
Logan Drees
Terry Driver

Kayla Drozd
Robert Drury
Jeffery Dubach
Anthony Duron
Jennifer Dusard
Jessica Echterling
Khrisstopher Edmaiston
Joseph Efantis

Shawn Ehlers
Adair Engel
Jakov Engel
Madison Engel
Megan Erway
Andrew Escabi
Kenneth Evans
Kyle Evans

EIGHT/NINE

After the bell rings for C lunch, the freshman begin their trek toward the cafeteria. Everyday, the freshest foods are prepared to nourish these growing teens.

EIGHT/NINE

After finishing their lunch, a group of freshmen stand in the cafeteria chatting. Even though most freshmen don't like the lunch in the West building, the wholesome association of their peers makes it all worthwhile.



Stephanie Evans

Brittany Evola

Stephanie Farmer

Samuel Fazekas

Elizabeth Feliciano

Brittany Felker

Todd Ferris

Bruce Fink

Taylor Fleming
Jennifer Fletcher

Jeremy Flick

Joshua Flick

Benjamin Flohr

Michelle Floyd

Brittany Foley

Andrew Foster

Rachell Franklin

Tina Franklin

Dustin Franz

Amanda Frasure

Renee Frechette

Amie Fuller

Leslie Fuller

Corey Gaines

Tyler Games

Brigitte Gandy

Nathan Garcia

Isidoro Garibaldi

Zachary Garner

Breanna Garza

Melissa Garza

Stephanie Gerick

Jonathan Geske

Amanda Getting

Elizabeth Girouard

Madelyn Glass

Benjamin Gobin

Dakota Gobin

Matthew Golarz

Andrew Golden

James Gore

Eric Gossett

Taylor Grashel

Garrett Graves

Adam Greer

Wendy Grinder

Emily Guerra

Matthew Guglielmetti



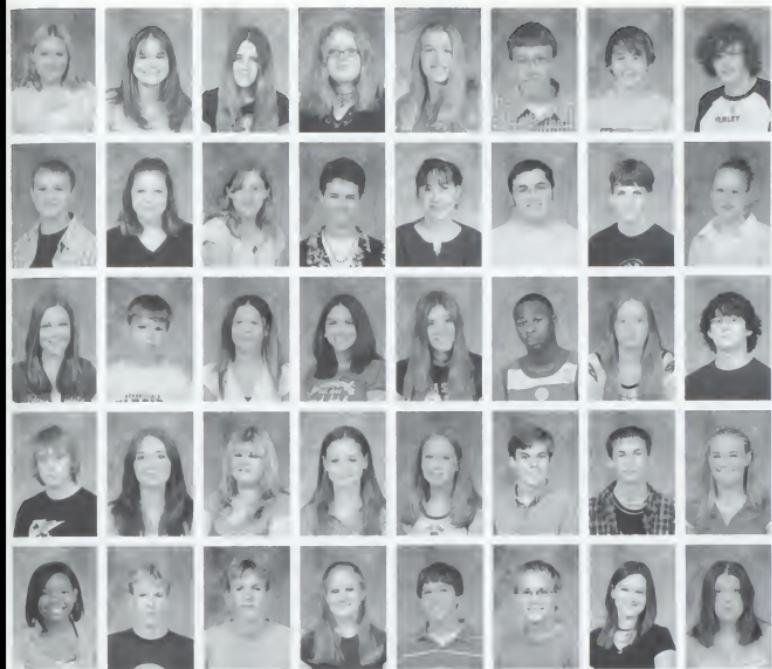
Melissa Hale
Taylor Halko
Ashlee Hall
Mariah Hamang
Sarah Hamang
Joseph Hammond
Michael Hanlon
Samuel Hardison

James Harris
Brittnee Harshman
Kaylyn Hart
Brian Hatten
Jessica Hayward
Michael Hazy
Dennis Healy
Rachel Heckman

Lindsay Hejna
Joseph Henry
Christine Hernandez
Amber Herrera
Jillian Herman
Erick Hester
Maria Hicks
John Hill

Austin Hillery
Jessika Hoardae
Samantha Hoak
Lauren Hodges
Meredith Hodges
David Holek
Jeremy Holloway
Lauren Hopper

Treonna Hunter
Alexander Hutchins
Benjamin Hutchins
Jennifer Hyde
Nathan Ingram
Franklin Ivey
Leah Jackson
Christina Jacobs



OPINION OF PHS THIS YEAR



AMANDA SEARLES 9

"I love it! It's nice to be in a big school with a large selection of class choices. The school actually has good sports teams and the teachers (for the most part) are nice."

PERCIFIELD, 9

"Portage High works so fast that if someone like me were to come in the middle of the year they could get most credits back. I like how we work as if it is two years in one."



HOLLY PERCIFIELD



EIGHTH NINE

While playing an exciting game of volleyball in freshman PE, freshman Lauren Hodges stops to pose for the camera. She also played on the JV soccer team this year.



EIGHTH NINE

His classmates listen intently as freshman Peter Loftland gives a Powerpoint presentation during Mrs. Burke's freshman English class. Many students use Powerpoint as a visual aid.

EIGHTH GRADE

As part of the cheerleading squad, freshman Stephanie Bowman holds a letter at a basketball game. Cheerleaders are considered to be a great source of school spirit and pride.



Stephanie Jahoda
Ashleigh Janiga
Melinda Jarnecke
Brittany Johnson
Natalie Johnson
Vance Johnston
David Jolly
Biljana Jovanovic

Tate Judy
Jennifer Kalch
Nicholas Kaminski
Trevor Karagias
Kaitlin Karagoty
Jaime Kasper
Kevin Katona
Matthew Kawiecki

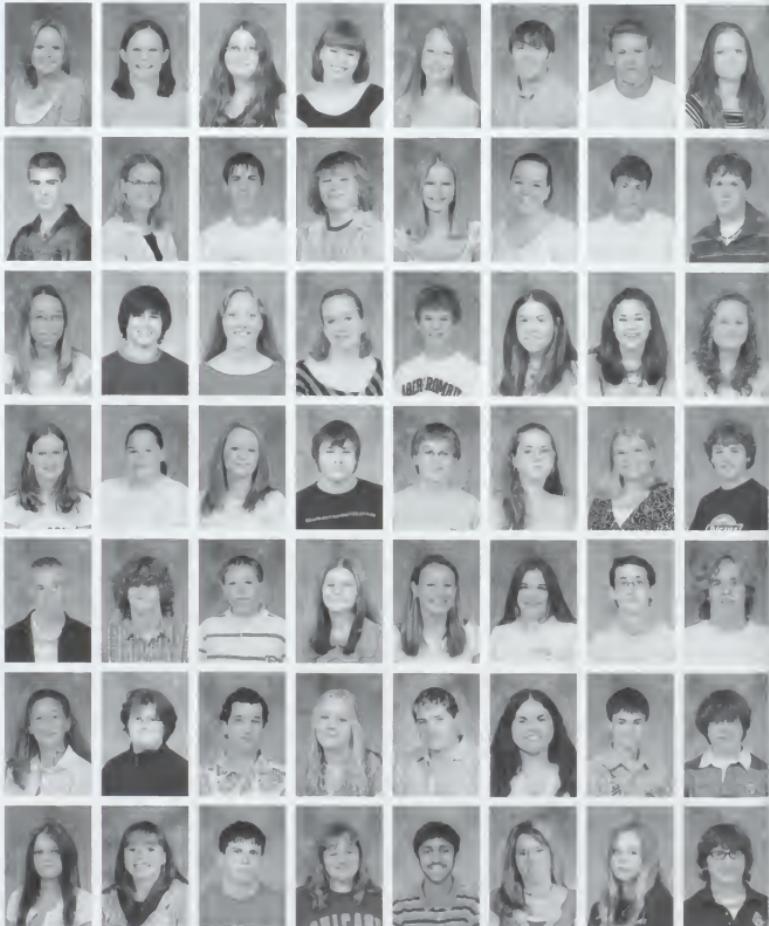
Courtney Kearby
Brandon Kestle
Katina Kidd
Torie Klismaszewski
Craig Knickerbocker
Kristen Knuth
Rebecca Kobe
Brittany Komenda

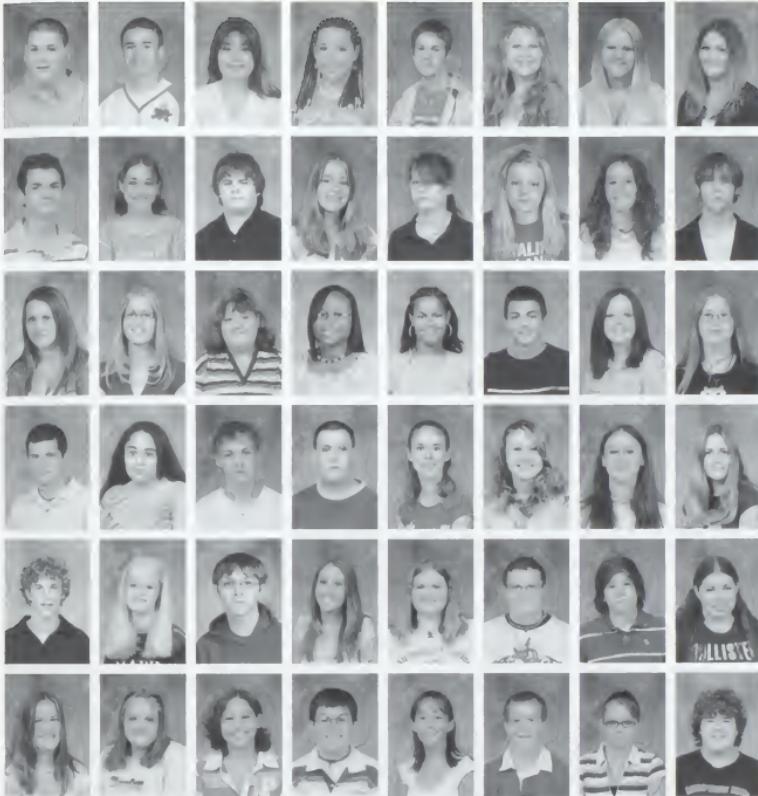
Lauren Komenda
Jayne Korpak
Kara Kostelnik
James Kovesci
Aaron Krabbenhoft
Melissa Kramick
Nicole Krooswyk
Kevin Krueger

Jeffrey Krug
Timothy Laskovich
Brian Lester
Sarah Laux
Olivia Leggett
Amanda Leimbach
Daniel Lenzo
John Lesniewski

Carmyn Leveritt
Benjamin Levin
Brett Lewis
Lindsay Ling
Robert Little
Abigail Llerena
Peter Lofland
Joseph Lonergan

Brittany Lozanovski
Kim Lunn
Thomas Lynch
Ashley Madson
Kamran Malik
Samantha Maples
Sarah Marek
Stevan Marjanov





Joshua Martin
Joel Martinez
Stacey Martinez
Dallas Masch
Thomas Mathis
Alyssa Mayerik
Kristen McCoy
Kathryn McCready

Steven McLeod
Amanda Mecysinne
Raymond Meehan
Valerie Mihal
Diamond Miller
Kelly Miller
Angela Mills
Eli Mills

Amanda Mirabella
Melinda Misch
Samantha Mischancko
Jessica Moore
Ilin Morales
Michael Morales
Colleen Moran
Emily Morris

Ryan Morris
Amy Muhammad
Michael Murray
Jeremy Myers
Korissa Neace
Krista Nebel
Katie Nestorovich
Cassandra Newlin

Benjamin Newton
Tiffany Nichols
Joshua Novak
Kari Nugent
Joelle Oakes
Robbie Onofrey
Alexander Opriski
Sara Ortiz

Lindsay Owens
Michelle O' Dor
Katie O'brien
Andrew O'reilly
Jacquelyn Pagan
Nathaniel Pall
Kayla Patton
Philip Paulson



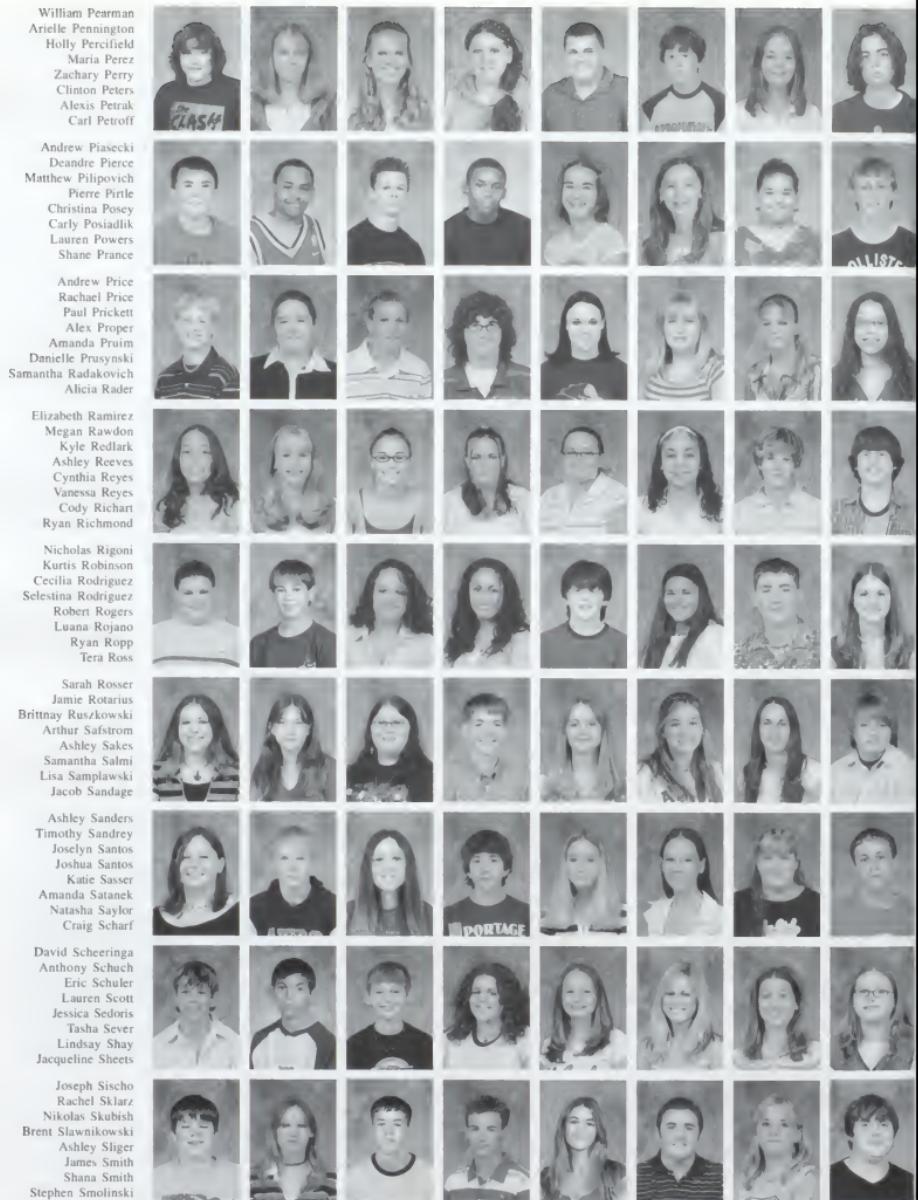
EIGHTEEN NINE

After pushing himself to finish the race in good standing, freshman Myles Jolliver collapses on the field in exhaustion. He has been running since his sixth grade year.



EIGHTEEN NINE

This year was the first year that the freshman class took the *SAT* test. Here, math students in Mr. Smenyak's class attempt at doing a few problems that they may find on the test.





Hannah Snyder
Ryan Specht
Timothy Standerski
Anna Stanley
Brittany Stanton
Brian Stasik
Natasha Stearns
Danielle Steele

Jami Steighner
Richard Stevens
Corey Stidham
Stacey Stille
Julie Stills
Tara Stockstill
Zachary Stoehr
Michele Stowers

Erin Strang
Amanda Sulski
Craig Summers
Ronald Sutton
Rick Swain
Laura Swanson
Nicole Sykora
Jessie Tankersley

Michael Tanses
Brittany Tapper
Ariana Taylor
Allyssa Terkovic
Ashley Testa
Kayla Thomas
Katie Thomason
Timothy Thompson

Steven Thorne
Anita Thornton
Brian Thornton
Melody Tilford
Amber Toigo
Emily Tolliver
Thomas Torres
John Trathen



EIGHTIES AS VOTED BY FRESHMEN

42% *I Don't Know*

Sixteen Candles 12%

12% *Back to the Future*

Breakfast Club 9%

6% *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*

Fast Times at Ridgemont High 6%

3% *Weekend at Bernie's*

Pretty in Pink 3%

3% *Scarface*

Rocky 99 3%

EIGHTH/NINE

MADE
Whilst in a mounting position, the freshman cheerleaders pose and smile for the crowd. The girls performed at every varsity basketball game.

EIGHTH/NINE

MADE
Whilst in a mounting position, the freshman cheerleaders pose and smile for the crowd. The girls performed at every varsity basketball game.



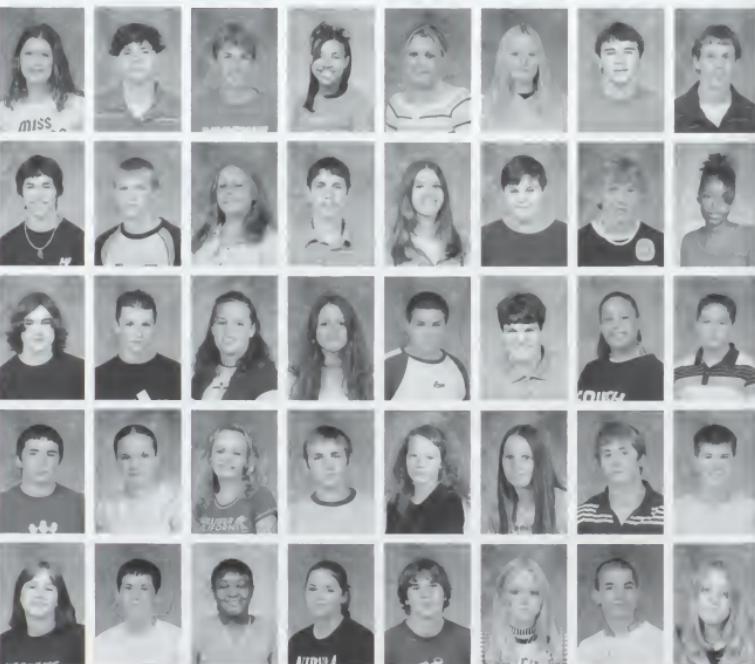
Meredith Trobaugh
Christopher Troup
Corey Tulacz
Brandi Turner
Katlyn Udzitz
Jody Uran
Aaron Van Wormer
Nicholas Vanni

Jaime Vasquez
Julian Vasquez
Krystal Vivian
Kevin Waite
Rachelle Walker
Randy Walker
Matthew Walters
China Walton

Joshua Weldon
Dustin Westphal
Alexandra Whelan
Ashton Whitley
Eric Wilk
Christopher Wilkering
Vera Clarissa Wilkins
Christopher Williams

Jacob Williams
Sydney Williams
Felicia Williamson
Justin Willis
Mary Wilson
Tara Wilson
James Wilt
Corey Winowitch

Amber Wood
Zachary Wood
Kortney Woodward
Lacey Wozniak
Benjamin Wright
Fawn Wright
Joseph Wright
Amanda Yakel





Jessica Yauch
Rachel Ybarra
Jaclyn Yester
Jennifer York
Natasha Younger
Kevin Zbikowski
Tracie Zeriau
Alisha Zick



Gabrielle Ziller
Natalie Zulkowski
Adrian Zuniga

FAVORITE PART OF PHS



JOSEPH DICOCO, 9

"I have to admit, I love the ladies here at the high school. They are just all a whole lot hotter than middle. That summer vacation really made a difference."

AMANDA GETTIG, 9

"My favorite part is probably the block scheduling because you only have to think about four classes instead of six or seven."



WHAT IS YOUR
FAVORITE PART OF PHS

EIGHTH GRADE

"High school brings many opportunities to students that they have not seen before. Here, freshman Rachel Ybarra takes part in a dance competition."

EIGHTH GRADE

"The book *Marmalade Boy* was the inspiration for this t-shirt, made by freshman Emily Morris. Students had to read a book and make a t-shirt based on it."

FAVORITE PART OF PHS



"It is more organized and mature compared to middle school, which means that it is not as fun."

NATHAN INGRAM, 9



FACULTY

Mary Allison
Jane Arden
Heidi Babcock
Bill Bodnar
Carrie Brown
Shirley Bustos
Amanda Carlson
Larry Casbon



Joshua Cavan
Lois Chalmers
Amanda Childers-Martin
Scott Connor
Barb Cook
Kevin Damrell
Rhonda Doane
Diane Dominguez



Jim Douglas
Jimmy Downes
Maryann Eckart
Mark Fischer
Deborah Gannon
Vanessa George
Melanie Gorden
John Hall



Mark Harsha
Debra Heitmann
Sandy Herr
Jay Hodges
Marian Horazy
Tami Hudson
John Iles
Carrie Jensen





Dawn Johnson
Mark Karmel
Charity Kehoe
Chris Kern
Richard Kirchner
Sue Kolodzianski
Geri Kotyuk
Kathy Kotyuk



Leslee Kretz
Tom Lewendowski
Barb Lochmondy
Bryan Lochmondy
Marissela Lynch
Jill Mangold
Carrie Martin-Smith
Bob Muttix



Dana McCoy
Dan Merrill
Terry Milner
Pina Monsivias
Patrick Moody
Christina Mooradian
Helen Mundell
Ralph Mundt



Arlene Neill
Penny O'Neil
Linda Parker
Robert Parker
Sheila Parker
Melanie Peda
Kristen Peterson
Rob Prellwitz



Jennifer Randell
Jill Redmon
Aaron Riegle
Virginia Rivera
Carolyn Rodea
Jose Rodea
Latonda Rogers
Millie Ruzbasan

WHAT WAS YOUR MOST EMBARRASSING fashion blunder of the 80's?



"The ultra-mullet, AKA
'safety rocker hair'."
- Mr. Downes



"Tight acid
washed jeans"
- Mr. Bartos

- Ms. Metzinger



Leading by example is
one way the Coach Jeff
Smenyak inspires his
students and athletes.

Elissa Schubert
Sabrina Scroggin
Larry Shepard
Marjorie Slamkowski
Jeff Smenyak
Jolene Smith
Marcia Soyster
Barbara Spitzer



Porter County
Vocational counselor
and HOSA co-sponsor Mrs.
Kelli Ellis talks to club
members on the importance
of community service.



**Getting ready for
Star Wars?** Nah,
Mr. Jose Rodea just decided
to teach his club a few
lessons on weapon skill.



**Strumming along
and listening
intently, Mrs. Carolyn Rodea
works with the Acoustic
Latin Guitar club on a new
musical piece.**





"Mad Dog" (a.k.a. Mr. Bill Bodnar delights audiences every year while hosting the Variety Show and plugging the Spring Musical at every opportunity.

• • Laughing and enjoying themselves were only a small part of Mrs. Paula Wiese's Leaders of Tomorrow class. Community service was the main focus.



22 80s babes . . .

1. Kim Basinger



© 1989 Warner Brothers

2. Bo Derek

3. Kathleen Turner

4. Stevie Nicks

5. Margaret Thatcher

1. Harrison Ford

2. Tom Cruise

3. Mel Gibson

4. Richard Gere

5. Kevin Costner 22



© 2004 Lucasfilm Ltd.

. 80s hunks



The faculty team listens to a little advice from the Varsity B-Ball coach Steve Barcos. Whatever he said worked as the staff defeated the students one more time.



Sue Squire
Marilynn Svetanoff
Gail Trobaugh
Paula Weise
John Zack
Lucas Zartman



ORGANIZATIONS

Many students throughout the walls of Portage High School participate in one of the many clubs and organizations that the school offers. There were many different clubs and organizations in the 1980's here at Portage High School, but today there are a lot more offered to the student body. Whether a student goes to the Anime Club, Tae-Kwon-Do, or Art Club these are all ways for students to meet new people, have a good time, and express themselves as individuals.

Organizations are usually sponsored by a faculty member and lead by a few student officers, which are voted on by other students involved in the club. Most of the clubs meet after school hours, however some meetings are held during resource time and on weekends.

Some, such as the Foreign Language clubs, were started to further students learning experience outside of class and familiarize members more with the culture of the people.





studied. Some of the clubs and organizations at Portage High School have also been started by students. These students have to find a sponsor and then receive permission from the office before they can even hold their first meeting. Other clubs began as a way for students to socialize and further develop their talents whether it is creating a mosaic, writing for a student publication, or performing a classical masterpiece.

Becoming a member of any club is sure to bring on many exciting experiences for a student throughout their high school career. These activities can open a student's eyes to see a whole new world of opportunities for their futures. The clubs and organizations here at Portage High School have been impacting many students' lives ever since the 1980's and they will continue to impact the future of the student body for many years to come.

ORGANIZATIONS

Deep in thought, a quiz bowl team member anxiously awaits for the next question. Quiz bowl is about mental prowess as well as how fast you react to the question.

In preparation for the academic super bowl, the math team met each week to study. They spent time reviewing and practicing for the event.



At a quiz bowl meet, junior Nathan has his hand placed firmly on the buzzer. Quiz bowl is similar to Jeopardy, but played on teams.

With their eyes on the television screen, students were able to test their knowledge. A series of questions covering various topics flashed across the screen for all to answer.





ACADEMIC TEAMS SHARING THEIR KNOWLEDGE

SPREAD BY KAREN FONSECA KEEFER



To wrap up the academic year, the teams were invited to an awards banquet after school. Individuals were recognized for their accomplishments on the teams.

The end of the year knowledge bowl was held after school. Anyone was able to come and answer quiz questions and enjoy pizza.

Everyone always has the will to volunteer in the National Honors Society. Senior Jacqueline Rice stood up with pride during the design she had made for the group. The final style was the one that Jackie had prepared.



One of the things that the NHS pride's themselves on is all the volunteer work that they do. Senior Paige Roy looks over one of the sheets to decide what she wants to do for the next exciting activity.

Attendance at meetings is imperative. Senior Reba Turpin calls roll to see which members are attending the assembly as senior Tim Statton gives the regular treasurer's report.





Before the meeting
seniors Joel Stankowski and Steven Rosenbaum converse on the events that are going on in NHS. Briefly talking about the activities of their week and the upcoming meeting.

As reading over the
meeting's upcoming activities and events, juniors Brandon Bitter and Radley Alcantara decide on which things are plausible to them. Deciding on whether to join and participate in one or the other.



The Future Leaders of America

STORY BY GENEVIEVE ARNDT

National Honors Society is an elite group of students, who are the best of the best.

At the beginning to the year the students with a 3.3 or higher GPA are allowed to apply to try and see if they will be accepted.

There are four principles that one must have to obtain the privilege of being in NHS. Character, Scholar, Leadership, and Service are the values that one must have in order to be accepted into the society.

Many people take pride in being accepted and feel as though they have accomplished something great. "I was excited, I worked hard for the

chance to be looked at for all my academic abilities, so when I was accepted I was very happy," said junior Rachel Reed.

The Honors Society also does a lot of activities during the year, including the blood drive, Christmas in April, and other services that benefit the Portage community.

"I loved raking leaves for the elderly citizens, because they were so happy to see us," said senior Tasha Papachronis.

Altogether the National Honors Society is a society that is built and supported through strength and determination to succeed.

WHAT IS THE BEST PART OF BEING IN NHS



"Having the responsibility to be a leader and to be helpful to people who are in need."

WENDY LYLE SENIOR

"National Honors Society is the most corrupt organization other than the Democratic Party."

DAN LILLY SENIOR

"The great feeling you get when you help someone and do something for someone else."

CHRISTEN COFFEY JUNIOR



Almost in a trance.
Senior Eric Carter
stares intently at
the committee
speaking, listening
to what they have
to say to see if any
of it applies to him.
Getting ready to
volunteer for the
next activity

While paying
attention to the
speakers, junior
Cristen Coffey listens
for key points so she
can jot down in her
notebook. Taking
notes on key ideas
and relevant factors
is essential in
understanding NHS.



As volunteer sign-up
signs the room, many people
ponder what and how
many activities they
should apply for.
Junior Stephanie
Tanis debates on
whether or not she
should sign up for
another job.

Closely examining the
words of the
presidents, juniors
Mary Craighead and
Alycia Laboy pay
pertinent attention to
them. Listening to
topics such as fund-
raising, Christmas in
April, and Nursing
Home Bingo.





In the NHS, talking to Mrs. Shubert to see if a project is worth pursuing is essential. Juniors Lisa Weller and Sarah Fetter confide her to see if their venture is valuable enough to chase and to see if it is a good idea.



AN ACADEMIC STAR STEVE LENTZEN

Q. What is your self-motto?
A. As the small mustard seed grows into a tall tree, so I must, man of meager beginnings, rich toward the sky and give shade to the masses.

Q. If you had to choose your favorite movie of all time what would it be?
A. It would have to be *Braveheart*.

Q. What is your favorite artist/song of all time?
A. Gar, and their song *The Wonderer*.

Q. What are your hobbies?
A. Like water sports, Philosophy, cats, explosives, Music, and the Bible.



Every year all of the members of the NHS have to sign a small diploma book at the induction ceremony. Junior Rachel Reed signs in for her very first time as Mr. Floyd is there to congratulate her with a handshake and a warm smile.

After the field trip to Merrillsville, sponsor Mrs. Marissa Lynch gives a speech over the Multicultural Club outing. She tries to answer everyone asking them what their experiences were and if they had a good time or not.

Intently listening to the sponsor of the Merrillsville Multicultural club, called STAND, senior Zachary Hines takes in what he says. He spoke of segregation and issues with race in high schools.



The STAND group at Merrillsville High School met with the members of the Portage Multicultural Club about the effects of the private Juniors Courtesy Rogers-Bell, Olivia

Zemba, and Kristin Corbett who she said and get a couple of laughs in at the people that are portrayed.



As the performance continues, senior Lagan Ortiz and sophomore Felicia Hendricks watch as a new skit is executed. The skit was about a boy being teased because he was too smart.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR FAVORITE ACTIVITY OF THE YEAR



"It would have to be the Merrillsville exchange. I met a lot of new people and had a great experience involving myself in another school."

SARAH SANTONE SENIOR

"It was the student exchange with Merrillsville. It was an experience being able to see how different school runs and the similarities."

TOGAN ORTIZ SENIOR



"Going on the Merrillsville exchange was one of the funniest activities of the year. I met many wonderful people and got to see how another school works. I never knew how diverse their school was."

DESIRAE EDWARDS JUNIOR



DIVERSITY IN PORTAGE HIGH

Story by Genelle DeArmond

At Portage High School diversity is a major issue. The school keeps becoming more and more diverse and now it is finally being recognized after such a long time coming. Not a lot of Portage kids know that the high school has a Multicultural Club, and that is a shame. The Multicultural Club does a lot to try to create and spread diversity throughout the school and the Portage community. "I think that people should know more about the club and what it stands for. It is really hard to try

and get a huge population of students informed when there are only so many members," states junior Yasmin Corral. All of the members say that it would be great if they could get more people to help volunteer and spread the word of the club. "The club really does do great things, and I know that we could do a lot more if we had a more people," states sophomore Felicia Hendricks. Even though the number of members is dwindling their spirit is still strong.



After one of the meetings, senior Sarah Santana talks to one of the members about the upcoming fund-raise. They did a set dress-off event that benefited the organization.

After the performance, the members were asked to talk about the differences between schools. Senior Rachael Whitworth and junior Yasmin Corral remained to speak a few of the subtle dramatic disparities.



After the candle ceremony, senior Tiffany Yerushki and junior Caroline Hamdon and Stephanie Hanna wait to receive their awards. They all were rewarded for their knowledge of the Spanish language.



Intently listening to the speech of Mr. Rivera, juniors Ashley Davis and Jennifer De la Cruz listen with admiration of wisdom that he preaches. Both of them were rewarded for their skills in French.

With a smile on her face, junior Sara Olson gladly accepts her award, as senior Christina Pacheco looks on in her turn. Both girls earned the great honor for through perseverance and hard work.



A FOREIGN LANGUAGE STAR DANNY KEDDITS

- Q. What is your favorite movie?
A. Let's see... "The Empire Strikes Back!"
- Q. What is your favorite artist/song?
A. Only Green Day, they are my God. Longview is the best song ever written!
- Q. What is your self-motto?
A. If you want peace, prepare for war!
- Q. What are some of your hobbies?
A. I play the guitar, go to Green Day concerts, watch Green Day music videos... I eat, live, and breath Green Day everything. Heck ya!



Socially active after the ceremony, senior Ivan Matic converses with some of his fellow members of FLHS. Matic was awarded for his knowledge in two foreign languages.

After the ceremony everyone retired to the south cafeteria for food and drink. Senior Jacinta Anakwe looks on to see where everyone is and who she can say hello to next.

Planning ahead

HOSA AND BPA

Story by JESSELINE MORTON

B.P.A. or Business Professionals of America is a club that teaches students business skills and prepares them for the world of business. The club competes in various competitions and attends leadership conferences.

"B.P.A. is an organization that offers leadership, participation responsibilities, and more," said senior Taylor Schaeffer. "It also provides recognition, scholarships, and other opportunities for the business work field," said senior Taylor Schaeffer.

Many people join the club for different reasons. For some it may be a requirement for a class and others may just want the extra help to get a good grade.

for future work

"Being in business tech club I didn't have a choice to join, but going to the contest

and competing in something of my knowledge made B.P.A. more interesting to join," said Junior Nicole Jones. "I am interested in a career in the medical field, so H.O.S.A., which is an organization that promotes career opportunities in the health care industry, H.O.S.A. provides many opportunities in a health career the opportunity to learn more about the health career of ones choice."

"I plan to take part of pediatrics next year," stated junior Stephanie Hood.

H.O.S.A. helps many students choose what they want to be in the health field. H.O.S.A. And B.P.A. students are very involved in their jobs. One can say that the business future will be filled with many students that will know what they're doing.



Photo by Jeremy Marton

Vocational students in Mrs. Doane's dental class make molds of the human cavity during class. This is a good way to become familiar with the cavity.

A time out is well needed for these girls after they have been working hard. Junior Sarah Fetter takes a time out with the leader to discuss business other than H.O.S.A.



Photo by JESSELINE MORTON



Photo by Jasmine Rodriguez

Photo by Genevieve Arnold



Photo by Genevieve Arnold

WHAT IS THE HARDEST PART OF B.P.A?



"The hardest part is going to the State Leadership conferences and competing."

SARAH SEVERTZ JUNIOR

"Missing school and trying to catch up on all the homework."



"Not knowing what is on the test because they don't give you the same job to look up."

KRISTINA GEORGE JUNIOR

Members of B.P.A., seniors Rachael Sodaro, Rebecca Turpin, and Nicole Beat, take charge at a meeting to go over things they need to know for competition.

Part of H.O.S.A. is to create art work having to do with the human body. Junior Shannon Jones practices how to judge art work in a H.O.S.A. competition.

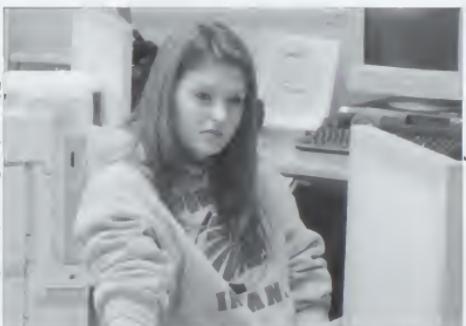


Photo by Genevieve Arnold



Photo by Jasmine Rodriguez

B.P.A. member sophomore Natalie Vanary pays close attention as other members gather to talk about B.P.A. competition. It is important to pay close attention so that one does not miss information.

H.O.S.A. members receive Practice problems before competition. Junior Vanessa Gaboian is discussing a practice problem with another H.O.S.A. member to prepare for the real problems.

Together Juniors Stephanie Garner and Stephanie Tanis join to tell the class of their ideas for H.O.S.A. They are preparing the class for H.O.S.A. competition.

When help is needed, there is no harm in asking. Mrs. Ellis lends her helping hand to Juniors Tiffany Hansen and Olivia Zamarron.



Photo by Jasmine Rodriguez

Members of the dental class come together to create a mold of the human cavity. A vocational student takes a mold of senior Michael Schmitz teeth for the extra practice needed for the dental profession.



Photo by Jeremy Marion



Photo by Jasmine Rodriguez

What has HOSA meant to you?



"It has helped me choose the medical field I want to join and prepare me for medical school."

NICOLE SEEGER, JUNIOR

"It has helped students step up and take on many leadership roles."

JULIA WATKINS, JUNIOR

"HOSA helps unite all health Academy students to achieve a common goal."

SARAH REEDER, JUNIOR





As shown by
Seniors Rachael
Sarsam and
Rebecca Turpin,
friendship is an
important factor
when working side
by side. Taking time
out for a hug
shows friendship.



Photo by Genevieve Arnold



Photo by Jasmine Rodriguez



Quickly going over
the packet, Senior
Alejandro Chavez
goes through
information that
will help him during
the B.P.A.
competition.
Practice always
makes perfect.

HOSA members
take turns
explaining different
topics for
competition. Junior
Kimberly Weiland
and a vocational
student are
explaining what
needs to be done.

Photo by Genevieve Arnold

At the leadership conference, junior Keith Roy helps out the other members. Roy has been a member of the council since freshman year.

All smiles, senior Brittany Banic chats with other members. Banic has been in student council throughout her four years.



HELPING OTHERS AROUND THE COMMUNITY

STORY BY KELLY JUDY

Every year the Student Council of Portage High School does a lot to keep the school and community involved in many fun activities. The students involved in this organization take time out of their lives to help people within the community, around the world, and within the walls of Portage High School.

"The Student Council is a great group of people who not only work hard to achieve their goals, but also show great leadership skills throughout the activities that they do. We all work together to improve the overall conditions of the school and our community."

Junior Donald Lentz addressed.

The council participated in many events throughout the year such as a

dance-a-thon for the tsunami relief victims, raised money for school activities, and went to retreats to learn lessons about other schools that they would be able to apply here.

"The dance-a-thon was really fun. We got to have competitions throughout the night to show off dance skills of our fellow students." Junior Keith Roy stated.

The money raised within the year helped students here at PHS, victims of tsunami's and also different people within our community. The Student Council gives our school a great name by helping throughout the community, and raising money to help students here at Portage High School.



Also members of the junior class, Juniors Brian Norkus, Kimberly Payne, and Donald Lentz help out at pizza sales. This event helped make money for prom.



The voting for student council was a crucial event. The members campaigned for their in position for several days.



Student council members Juniors Jasmine Caraballo and Olivia Zamarron also help at pizza sales. The members have done charity work through the council.

As the day wore on, many fun activities were experienced. Here senior Robert Bailey attempts to untie a bunch of knots.



At their private lunch, seniors David Hinojosa and Anthony Leaf enjoy their meal. The council members chatted together during their break. The conference was a great success.



Kids from the middle schools were also invited to the conference. The council hopes to have some of them join when they get into high school.



Each year for the conference, the student council gets the cafeteria to themselves. Senior Brittany Banic and fellow council members enjoy the lunch that was provided for them to eat.

A slight smile is brought to junior Brian Norkus during the conference. Norkus has participated in many events through the student council.



Here council members of all ages and groups mix to go over a student lead activity. Junior Lisa Whitworth, Eric Thorp and Robert Liesch observe the board of events.

In an enthusing activity, sophomore Kathleen Hargarten shows middle school kids how to play the game. The kids have hopes to join the club next year.



Aimee Bass
and
Jeni Werde



Shannon Statler
and
Valerie Wiegall



Steve Chaddick
and
Joe Stevens



Amy Sampson
and
Laurie Lutz



Whitney R.
and
Yan Wolfe



Timothy Wilson
and
Connie Bush



Ashley Parrish
and
Bernice Albert



STORY BY:
ANDREW CULP

EVERY YEAR, THE TOP THIRTY STUDENTS OF THE SENIOR CLASS ARE INVITED TO BE PLACED IN THE ANNALS HISTORY AS PART OF THE

PRESTIGIOUS GROUP KNOWN AS ACES, OR ACADEMIC CHAMPIONS EXCELLING IN SCHOOL EACH SPRING, THERE IS A BANQUET HELD TO CELEBRATE AND COMMEMORATE THE ACHIEVEMENTS MADE BY THESE THIRTY STUDENTS.

EACH STUDENT GETS THE CHANCE TO PICK ONE TEACHER FROM THROUGHOUT HIS OR HER SCHOOL CAREER THAT HAS HELPED HIM OR HER EXCEL.

THIS YEAR'S ACES BANQUET WAS HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2005 IN THE OAKWOOD GRAND HALL AT THE WOODLAND PARK PAVILION. A DINNER WAS SERVED AT 6:30 P.M., WHILE THE AWARDS CEREMONY BEGAN AT 7:30 P.M.

TO BEGIN THE BANQUET, PORTAGE HIGH

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL RICHARD KIRCHNER INTRODUCED SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT TERRY HUFFORD AND SUPERINTENDENT MICHAEL BERTA TO EACH PRESENT A SPEECH TO THE ATTENDEES OF THE BANQUET. KIRCHNER THEN BEGAN TO SPEAK TO THOSE IN ATTENDANCE.

AFTER THE THREE GAVE THEIR SPEECHES, THE DISTRIBUTING OF AWARDS BEGAN. EACH STUDENT RECEIVED A CERTIFICATE AND A MEDAL.

THE INSPIRATIONAL TEACHERS OF EACH STUDENT RECEIVED A GLASS TROPHY OF AN APPLE. KIRCHNER CALLED EACH STUDENT AND TEACHER COMBINATION UP AS HUFFORD AND BERTA GAVE THEM EACH THEIR AWARDS.

TO GAIN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF BEING A PART OF ACES TAKES HARD WORK AND DETERMINATION ON THE PART OF THE STUDENT. ONE MUST PUSH

HIM OR HER SELF TO GAIN THE GRADES NECESSARY IN ORDER TO BE A PART OF THIS INSTITUTION.

"I ALWAYS THOUGHT OF 'ASCENDING THE RANKS' AND BEING SOMEONE KNOWN FINALLY," SENIOR ASHLEY PARRISH EXPLAINS. "THROUGH MY OWN HARF WORK, I HAVE. I FEEL THAT THE MAJORITY OF MY SUCCESS IS OUR TO MY OWN PERSONAL DRIVE."

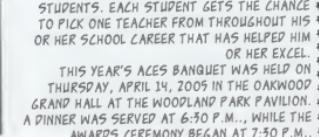
THE TEACHERS, AS WELL, DESERVE THEIR OWN PROVERBIAL "PAT ON THE BACK." ALONG WITH TEACHING THEIR OWN SUBJECT, THEY HAVE GONE THE EXTRA MILE TO TOUCH AND IMPACT STUDENTS' LIVES. THEY HAVE INSPIRED AND DRIVEN THIS YEAR'S ACES TO DO THE VERY BEST THEY CAN ACADEMICALLY, AS WELL AS IN LIFE. THE VERY IDEA BEHIND THE INSTITUTION OF ACES WAS SO THAT THESE STUDENTS, AS WELL AS THE TEACHERS, COULD BE AWARDED FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE EXCELLENCE.

"I FELT WE NEEDED TO HAVE A CELEBRATION OF SOME TYPE THAT COULD HONOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE," KIRCHNER SAYS. "WE HAVE BANQUETS FOR MANY OTHER ACTIVITIES, AND I FELT WE SHOULD NOT LOSE SIGHT THAT ACADEMICS IS THE MAIN COMPONENT OF EDUCATION."

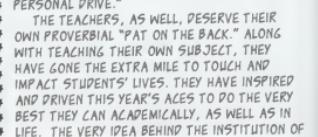
CERTAINLY, THE CELEBRATING OF SENIORS' ACHIEVEMENTS THROUGH ACES WILL PROCEED FORTH INTO THE FUTURE FOR YEARS TO COME. AS ADVICE TO FUTURE MEMBERS OF ACES, SENIOR COREY NIGH SAYS, "WORK TO YOUR POTENTIAL, ALWAYS LEARN FOR THE SAKE OF LEARNING, AND, ABOVE ALL ELSE, PLAN AHEAD."



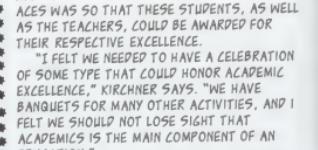
Brittany Banis
and
Bill Bednar



Caitlin Bartz
and
Mary Allmon



Corey Nigh
and
Gerri Kucyuk



Daniel Biby
and
Marlene Mundt



David Reisen
and
Marjorie
Slamborg



Eric Mancini
and
John Ellis



ARTISTICALLY DIVINE

STORY AND PHOTOS BY RANDI PIERS

Though the numbers have dwindled the fun, spirit, creativity, and learning have not. Art club has been happening at this school for years and may students don't understand what it's all about. For these students it's a place to relax, learn, and make a few new friends.

Mr. Eich sponsors the art club. He stays after to ensure the students have a safe haven after school. It's really a place for the artists to express themselves. A portion of the attendance is made up of students trying to finish up their work for their own art classes. The rest of it is made up of students who truly love art.

"I like having other people in the room they keep the club live and active," said sophomore Moana Parker.

The ladies are very humble even though many of their projects have been entered and won in art shows. There are gentle men in the club too.

"There are boys in art club, they just don't come much," stated sophomore, Moana Parker.

Many consider art club off limits to the students that are in spots, however that's not the case.

"I've been in art club for a while," said

Parker who has also been on a swim team since she was five years old.

Much like swimming a couple people come here just to relax and not care what any body thinks.

"Many people consider me creepy I know but, it's a place to lay back and imagine a masterpiece of paradise," said sophomore, Fellila Hendricks.

The attendees would like the school to know that they enjoy going because "Mr. Eich is totally cool."

This his second year being the sponsor though it is out of charter for him to stay after school he enjoys helping students expand their art careers.

"Mrs. Weise stopped down and so the spot was open and I thought it would be interesting," stated sponsor Mr. Eich. Though nothing appears to have changed when he took over that's not the case.

"Every one feels more at ease I think," stated Stephanie Garner.

Mr. Eich enjoys his new position and so does the rest of the club. Art club has been very successful this year. Many of students have sent pieces to shows and won! Nice job guys.



"Just making some finishing touches," stated sophomore Britnee Berman. She has been in art club for two years. Berman still looks forward to going on Tuesdays after school for years to come.

Anonymously beautiful is the title of sophomore Moana Parker's painting. She hopes her hard work will pay off in the art show.

ART ADDICT

Moana Parker

- Q How long have you been in art club?
- A "About a year, it's so much fun. I love it."
- Q Why do you come?
- A "'Tis groovy"
- Q What's your favorite project?
- A "Anonymous Beautiful. It's full of swirls and colors."
- Q Where do you get your ideas?
- A "It's not ideas its just paint!"





A different angle is sometimes used to perfect a painting. Junior Ashley Davison does this by tilting her head.

Intense work on a drawing is just what Sophomore Amanda Todd, is staying after for. Listening to music also keeps her after.



While finishing up her caribean assignment, freshman, Erin Siringo concentrates deeply. Siringo enjoys being able to take some of her free time to work on her artwork.



NOT JUST HORING AROUND

Story by MEGAN RICHMOND

Portage High School offers many different kinds of clubs and organizations for the students to partake in, but the one that most people don't know about is the chess club. The chess club consists of many different students, all with different

friends and interests, but their love for playing chess brings them together each week.

"I love playing chess," States freshman Ryan Richmond. "It is a very challenging game and it requires me to think out my strategies so that I can win the game against my opponent." Even if you don't know how to play chess then you can still go and someone will teach you how to play.

"Although some of the people

here are crazy sometimes, there really aren't as many "nerds" as most people would think." Says junior and president of chess club Rachel Pekar. "There is such a variety of different people here and it's a very fun environment to be in."

The chess club has been meeting every Wednesday after school for three years and every year they seem to get a few more members, but not enough for some.

"I would really like to get a lot more people interested in the club," States junior Jeremiah Martin. "Everyone should know that chess club is a lot of fun and the people in the club are really cool and interesting. We really need more people."



WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE PERSON TO PLAY AGAINST?



"I love playing Levi Quinton, because he is one of the best players in the club. He's great competition."

RACHEL PEKAR JUNIOR



"I will play against anyone who is willing. I'm not a very good player so I'm not much of a challenge."

ANTHONY SCHUCH SENIOR

"Rachel Pekar, I've only gotten to play her once, but I had more fun playing against her than with any other person." JEREMIAH MARTIN JUNIOR



One should always have their best game face on so not to let your opponent know what you are thinking. Freshman Anthony Schuch is trying to intimidate his opponent by using his best game face. This is Schuch's first year in the club.





PHOTO BY ERIN DAVIS/VERSK

When playing chess you must always think ahead or have some kind of plan for your next move. Freshman Kevin Zbikowski tries to think of the right combination of moves that will help him win the game against all of his opponents

A game of chess can take hours to finish because of the time the players take to think about their next move. Senior Joshua Rey takes his time in making a decision about his next move so that he doesn't lose any of his game pieces



PHOTO BY ERIN DAVIS/VERSK



PHOTO BY ERIN DAVIS/VERSK

At the last meeting of the year the club celebrated their seniors. Pop, cake and brownies were served during the party. Junior Levi Gossard held a chess tournament to celebrate playing chess with his friends and eating cake in between his moves



PHOTO BY ERIN DAVIS/VERSK



With the help of their instructor, sophomores Betsy Brown and Leighann Smith find it easier to learn a knit stitch. Learning to knit is easier through visual aid.

KNITT WITTS BREAKING THE STEREOTYPE

Story by **Grace Doherty**

For some, when they think of knitting they are reminded of their grandmother knitting away in her rocker. However, that stereotype is destroyed by the Knitt-Witts.

The Knitt-Witts is a knitting club sponsored by art teachers Mrs. Wanda Rice and Mrs. Annette Kulmatycki. This was the first year for knitting club. It was open to all, regardless if they knew how to knit or not.

"I always wanted to learn to knit and what better place to do it than after school with my friends," said senior Kayla Conroy who has been knitting ever since then. Students got to learn the basics in knitting. They even got to work on several projects. They first started off with making wash cloths, and then

scarves. They even learned how to make a toy for cats. Their next project is to make a knit cap.

"I was excited to join knitting club, because I have been wanting to learn how to make a red knit cap," stated senior Krisan Cieszkiewicz.

Not only did students leave the club learning how to knit, but they also left with several other things. Students learned how to challenge themselves, not to give up, patience, and most of all they left with new friends.

"I learned that just one stitch can start a really cool project and that it is easier to learn something if you can see your progress. I have learned so much from the knitting club," stated senior Laura Merkner.



Focused on the task at hand, seniors Krystle Dove and Laura Merkner work on their projects. This is the girls first year in the club.



Carefully, Senior Jessica Blanton begins to cast on. This is the first step you learn, and it is needed for every project.





LEARN HOW TO MAKE A KNIT STITCH

-
-
-
-



It can be somewhat difficult to learn a new stitch. Seniors Kristan Cieszkiewicz and Jana Zervos approach it with a can do attitude.

Needles in hand, senior Kayla Conroy makes sure she's on track. New stitches can sometimes be frustrating.



With smiles on their faces, seniors Laura Merkner and Jana Zervos work on their winter scarves. The knitting club's first project of the year was a scarf.

An audience
does not scare
junior Wendy
Spacek. Feeling
comfortable
around her
fellow peers
Spacek reads
her short story.

THE ART OF expression

Story by Grace Rodriguez

Expression is very important, as Reading Club and Writers Block members already know. Members of both clubs have a clear understanding of the importance of expression.

In Reading Club students choose a book to read, then in the following meeting they discuss their dislikes and likes about the book. Writers Block members on the other hand are able to read their own personal stories and poems. They are also allowed to read other students work if they were to

shy to read their own just simply or just simply could not attend one of the meetings.

"You can share your writing with people you can relate to in your own age group, people you get along with. We're like a family, and this room is like our home, but it's easier here," states Writers Block member freshman Krystal Vivian.

Freshman Writers Block member Mea Rose Siroky stated, "besides writing we also play Scrabble, talk, and have fun."

Members of each club has enjoyed their time spent in the learning of the art of expression.



With *Breaking Point* by Alex Flinn, senior Genevieve Arnold looks over her favorite part. Arnold won a book by Flinn.

Slightly shy, freshman Elizabeth Feliciano reads one of her writings. Writers block has helped Feliciano get over fear of being in front of a crowd.



Confidence is a big part of Writers Block, as freshman Mariah Hamang learns. It takes a lot to get up and read a personal poem.

Pamphlet in hand, seniors Sarah Samaan, Genevieve Arnold, and Tegan Ortiz go over their options for their next book choice. They ended up choosing the novel *Breaking Point*.



WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE WRITING

"My favorite writing definitely has to be The Mayor of Casterbridge by Thomas Hardy." —Brie Anne Back

The ability to listen to others is an important skill as sophomore Brie Anne Back shows. It is essential to show respect for others.



Brie Anne Back

freshman

Writers Block/Reading Club

In their small group seniors Ashley Jalorecky, Amanda Morales, Christopher Curiel, and junior Lisa Whitworth lay together for a picture. The group was part of the spring retreat.



LIFE LESSONS

Learned

Story by Andrew Ely
and Jessie Hodges

Natural Helpers, to most students, is a mystery. What happens in the confines of the retreat location is only known to a select few. Those selected by their peers as the trustworthy are invited to join the group known as Natural Helpers.

At the beginning of each year, the students are given an anonymous survey consisting of two questions. Those questions are as follows: "What friends do you confide in with your problems? What teachers do you feel comfortable discussing personal problems with?" To be invited to the retreat, one must be selected by a minimum of five of his/her peers.

"When I was pulled out of class, at first, I was nervous because I was not sure of the reason, but after I found out I had been invited to go on the retreat I felt extremely happy," explains junior Robert Lieszch.

The retreat takes place two weekends a year: once in the fall and once in the spring. On each trip, roughly twenty students travel to a remote camp in which they do not know of it's setting until their arrival.

During the weekend, students were given the opportunity to experience many different activities and meet new people they may have never had a chance to become acquainted with.

"Over the weekend I had the chance to spend time with a diverse group of people that I would normally not have had the opportunity to meet. I came out of this retreat with a numerous amount of new friends," explains senior Genevieve Niemeth.

After letting down their barriers and becoming more comfortable with their peers and surroundings the students and staff took part in a variety of discussions and other related activities. Leading the retreat were journalism teacher Mr. Mark Karmel and Mrs. Kelli Ellis. The pair have been affiliated with the natural helpers program for the past several years and made an opportunity for multiple groups of students to attend the trip.

With each group of students the advisors take along on the trip many come back to with great experiences of the past weekend and numerous new tactics to aid themselves and others in coping with every day occurrences. Students learn important skills such as to love themselves, not to become overloaded with the problems of others, and to learn how to distribute the time they have. If nothing else the trip is a memorable way to develop an understanding take a deeper look into the lives of themselves and others on the retreat.



Exhausted Kyle Devaney and Radley Alcantara rest. The students received little sleep during the retreat.

While playing a game senior Melanie Dallas jumps into Kyle Devaney's arms. The duo participated in many activities over the weekend.





Adam Higgins, Shaun Gannon, Christopher Curiel, Paul Hobgood, Kyle Devaney, Alexander Tkarsky, Samantha Lingenfelter, Jacklyn Gore, Brittany Gill, Genevieve Nimeth, Melanee Dallas, Jessica Hodges, Radley Alcantara, Melody Young, Samantha Tamplier, Megan Rodriguez, Kelly Schoon, Alexandra Stewart, Whitney Keeling, Brittany Esposito, Jasmine Caraballo, Autumn McCormick, Jessica Bolint, Aaron Lopez, Sarah Tugurian , and Shannon Stutler.



Darko Jasnic, Mr.D, Mr. Karmel, Michael Kirk, Robert Bailey, Robert Liesch, David Hinojosa, Mark Scheuer, Amanda Feeney, Sanae Ibrahim, Natalie Kovachevich, Christopher Curiel, Elizabeth Koonce, Genevieve Nimeth, Mrs. Kretz, Mrs. Ellis, Lisa Whitworth, Abigail Fink, Amanda Morales, Teri Harrington, Ashley Jalovecky, Cara Horner, Melody Young, Robert Leib



In between activities staff member Sarah Tugurian clowns around. Tugurian was one of five staff members



In a fit of laughter Brittany Gill talks with senior Genevieve Nimeth. Nimeth was chosen as a spring retreat staff member later in the year.

Together the fall staff members group and smile. The staff members were chosen by Mr. Karmel and Mrs. Ellis after writing an essay.



Deprived of sleep junior Alexandra Stewart naps. Students slept only a few hours during the weekend.



WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER MOST

"I remember most the activities and presentations that took place on the retreat."

BRONZER JUNIOR

"I will always remember the staff and the way they planned the weekend."

FARRELL GOOD JUNIOR

"I will never forget Mark and Kelli as well as the staff and guests who made Natural Helpers sweet."

ROBERT BOYD SENIOR





Huddled together the faculty and cabin counselors smile. Cabin counselors were chosen from a retreat two years prior. *

Clumped together the fall group listens attentively to Mr. Karmel and Mrs. Ellis. Both have been involved with the retreat for years. *



THEATRE GROUP

gets round of applause

STORY BY:
AMANDA BURCH

for another
successful year

AN ELITE TEAM OF STUDENTS HAS BANNED TOGETHER ONCE AGAIN TO PUT TOGETHER THIS YEAR'S STAGE PRODUCTION. THIS TEAM IS NONE OTHER THAN OUR VERY OWN PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL THEATRISTS. MOST DO NOT KNOW THE MANY HOURS SPENT AFTER SCHOOL AND ON WEEKENDS THAT ARE USED TO PREPARE FOR THE YEAR'S PRODUCTION'S. FROM PRACULA TO SMOKY JOE'S CAFE, TO OUTSTANDING YOUNG MAN IN THE MIDDLE, AND LET'S NOT FORGET OUR LADIES IN THE FINAL EVENT OF THE YEAR, THE PORTAGE JUNIOR MISS PAGEANT.

"I REALLY ENJOY THE FACT THAT I GET TO DO SOMETHING I LOVE AND HANG OUT WITH MY FRIENDS AT THE SAME TIME SINCE WE DON'T REALLY GET TO SEE DURING SCHOOL DUE TO THE FACT THAT WE DON'T HAVE ANY CLASSES TOGETHER. IT IS A WAY FOR US TO SPEND A LITTLE QUALITY TIME," STATES JUNIOR RAMI PIERS. WITH THE EXCITEMENT OF OPENING NIGHT, MOST DO NOT GET TO SEE THE BEHIND THE SCENES ASPECTS OF ALL THE HARD WORK THAT IS PUT INTO THE YEAR'S PRODUCTION. "IT IS PROBABLY A GOOD THING THAT MOST

DON'T GET TO SEE ALL OF THE BEHIND THE SCENES ACTION, IT GETS DOWN RIGHT UGLY SOMETIMES! JUST KIDDING! BUT IN THE END IT ALL PAYS OFF WHEN THE CURTAIN OPENS ON OPENING NIGHT AND YOU GET THE REACTION FROM THE AUDIENCE THAT YOU HOPED FOR," EXCLAIMS, SOPHOMORE KAITALIN ELLIS. MANY STUDENTS HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH THEATRISTS FOR MANY YEARS. MOST DO NOT KNOW THAT WITH THE SELLING OF ADS AND WORKING THE CORRECT NUMBER OF SHOWS, THERE IS THE OPPORTUNITY TO EARN A VARSITY LETTER

AS WELL. FOR MOST THOUGH, IT IS ALL ABOUT THE THEATRE EXPERIENCE, LEARN OPPORTUNITIES, AND LASTING FRIENDSHIPS.

"I HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH THEATRISTS FOR A WHILE AND EVERY YEAR GETS BETTER, NOT ONLY PRODUCTION WISE, BUT BECAUSE OF FRIENDSHIPS AND ALL THE FUN WE HAVE PUTTING IT TOGETHER," RECALLS JUNIOR LINDSEY DAVIS.

IN THE END IT'S A REWARDING EXPERIENCE AND SHOULD BE GIVEN MORE RECOGNITION FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH.

In another performance of the evening, senior Jana Zerves astounds all with her spectacular piano playing skills. Hard work and determination are what has brought thus far.

In my future I plan to carry my theater experience on to larger scale settings, such as Broadway, or a community theater.

As the night goes on, seniors Brie Hettrick and Brittany Banic take a moment to grasp it all. The thespians banquet was a night to remember and a chance to celebrate the successful year.



Center stage,
Senior David
Hincjosa
bedazzles the
audience as he
is in a duet
with Amanda
Morales.
Cabaret was
the musical
inspiration
behind this

While waiting to take
the stage for her act,
senior Amanda Morales
adjusts her costume.
Morales has been the
only member to remain
an active thespian
since her freshman
year.



While
performing a
motif during
the thespians
banquet, senior
Christopher
Bolint, rocks
out. In between
awards being
handed out,
live acts were
performed by
thespians.

WRITING

OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MEREDITH REED

This year the editor of the *Saga*, publication of *Saga* The *Saga* carries on with their talents in literary artwork and other publications (id est publications of the magazine). The student body and *Saga* features studies them many many forms of times through out artwork, short the year, and then stories, poetry, they vote on which drawings, prose, selections will be paintings, fictional selected for the accounts, tales, actual *Saga*. fables, scripts, "We arrange the biographies, artwork in an essays, parables, acceptable format myths, legends, and that we, the *Saga* other publications in staff, concoct, and enter these into a arrangement computer. Then we print out a copy, and send the printed copy to the printing press at Portage High School. In conclusion, I basically type up the stuff people give me so they can read dream of," stated senior Shaun Gannon. Gannon, who is the

When working on the school publication, junior Amanda Campbell, concentrates on her work. It takes patients when working on the *Saga*.

Creative thought is needed while writing for the *Saga*. Junior Wendy Spacik, listens to music while finishing up the last touches to *Saga*.

HOW DO YOU THINK THE WHOLE *SAGA* EXPERIENCE WENT?

"We had some trials and tribulations that we were forced to overcome, but we vanquished our personal demons and forged what could be the greatest student publication that all the cosmos have ever encountered."

SHAUN GANNON SENIOR



While writing down information for *Saga*, junior Jennifer Hall, continues to work hard on her publications. Hall has been involved in *saga* for one term.

Even when the tensions of making deadlines for the *SAGA* editor, junior Elise Kiltner double checks her grammar before entering in the poems needed. Kiltner must check each and every poem before it is submitted into the *SAGA*.





Double checking
with Ms. Lute-
Brown, junior
Kaitlyn Beaurereau,
asks her teacher
for help on her
work. Beaurereau
is a dedicated
worker on the
saga staff.

Many peers don't
quite understand
the stress that a
school publication
can bring.
Sophomore Cat
Boucher works
diligently on her
work while
maintaining her
stress.

Prior to a deadline editor Dustin Foster puts on the finishing touches. Foster was one of the editors-in-chief.

First year staff member Brian Priest plans out his story by writing out a rough draft. Priest worked as a reporter.



Preparing for the Future

STAFF MEMBERS

Each year the Pow Wow staff publishes numerous issues of the newspaper and distributes them to the student body. The staff works to uncover the top local stories and make them known to the public.

"We begin the process of creating the paper by distributing story ideas, turning in rough drafts, revising and proofreading our work, placing the stories into the designs, turning them into babies, and finally sending the paper to press," explains sophomore Vincent Razo.

To the students and staff the procedure of putting together the paper is somewhat of a mystery. Many do not realize the work and dedication that putting together a newspaper requires. Consisting of many members, the class requires immense amounts of effort and commitment in order to run smoothly.

Despite minor setbacks staff faces, the goal of the paper is to create an outlet for students and Pow Wow staffers to express their viewpoints in a professional, mature manner.

"I joined the Pow Wow staff because I enjoy having a medium to voice my

personal thoughts and provide the student body with important information," explains editor Dustin Foster.

Each issue of the Pow Wow includes various sections that provide students with an abundance of information. On a regular basis these sections include: feature, sports, fusion, in depth, opinion, and miscellaneous. All sections include an assortment of stories that appeal to a range of diverse opinions.

With each story or page design completed staff members further their knowledge and experience in many different areas of journalism. Often the students who participate in this class walk away from high school with a sufficient amount of know how to be able to pursue some type of photography or journalism career if they choose.

"I plan to attend Indiana University and work towards receiving a Bachelor's degree in Journalism," states senior Ashley Craft.

Whether the members of the newspaper decide to follow through with a journalism career or they choose to go after another degree this experience will undoubtedly aid them in whatever path they wish to go down.

In frustration reporter Jacob Zuidervliet asks a class member for help. This was Zuidervliet's first year on the pow wow staff.



Photo By: Kimberly Nelson



Photo By: Kimberly Nelson



While typing a story reporter Shaun Gannon completes his article. Gannon was a staff member on the spring natural helpers retreat.

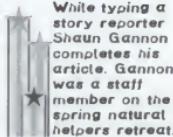


Photo By: Kimberly Nelson

Why Did You Join

"I joined the paper because I wanted to give people something to read that is educational and totally awesome."

SHAUN GANNON SENIOR



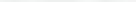
Photo By: Kimberly Nelson



Deep in thought feature editor Kimberly Nelson corrects a classmate's work. Nelson has been on staff for the past two years.



White concentrating on her assignment reporter Rachel Pekar listens to music. This was Pekar's first year on staff.



Please Spread The Love

STORY AND PHOTOS BY GENETTE LEARNED

As all high schools go, everyone has a yearbook. It is one of the things that throughout the year's one can look at and recollect on all past victories and memories of a greater time when they were young.

"I think that a yearbook is very significant. It has been an privilege and an honor to be a coeditor this year and to be able to help and advise all of my staff members," expressed graciously senior Kelley Yudt.

This year's theme was entitled "Made In The 80's." It was a theme proved to be loved and enjoyed by the staff and also showed to be true that every student

was "technically" made in the 80's.

"I really loved the 80's theme. It was something different then what has been done in the previous years," stated junior Nikita Mormola.

As another year comes to an end, the yearbook staffers all clutter to try and get all their spreads done.

"Everyone really put in a lot of heart and hard work into this book. We all deserve a huge pat on the back." Junior Ramy Piers exclaimed.

All in all this years book is bound to be an overwhelming success. It is looking to be one of the most exciting and original yearbooks to come along yet.



Every day in yearbook, junior Katherine Batista looks over her work before making the changes on her spread. Batista has been involved in yearbook for two years.



At the yearbook lock-in, senior Megan Richmond works on a story. Richmond is an assistant editor this year, and has been on staff since she was a sophomore.





Before the last deadline, junior Amanda Burch hurries away to finish her spread for the editors by herself. Burch is a prominent member of the yearbook staff and has helped out immensely.



While concentrating on the task at hand, junior Hannah McKee works to finish her work for the second deadline. This was McKee's first year on the Legend yearbook staff.



The editors always help out their staff members when ever they need it. Senior Kelley Yudi helps out one of her staff members, senior Erica Rodriguez on her Acoustic Latin guitar spread.

At the yearbook
took in on Friday,
April 16th, Juniors
Andrea Rodriguez
Kathryn Batista
take a break from
their work. The lock
in that night lasted
from after school
until about ten
thirty.

Before each
deadline, the
editors work
furiously. Senior
Meredith McLeod
works hard on her
spread. McLeod has
been on the staff
since her
sophomore year.



At the yearbook
lock in, staff
members take a
break. Senior Erica
Rodriguez reads a
magazine as other
members enjoy ice
cream. This is
Rodriguez's first
year on staff.





WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE SPREAD DESIGN



"Varsity baseball, it was my last spread and I knew how to complete it the right way."

JASMINE RODRIGUEZ, JUNIOR

"Variety Show because I had a lot of fun people that I got to quote."

MATT PIERS, JUNIOR

"I enjoyed writing my mini-mag story. I liked learning about my story topic."

STEPHANIE GREER, JUNIOR



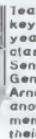
After vigorous concentration, senior Kristan Gieszkiewicz takes a break. Gieszkiewicz's spreads consisted of the Faculty section, Tae-Kwon-do, and also OYM.



With the stress of deadline dates nearing, senior Kristan Gieszkiewicz and senior Ashley Jatovecky work on their spreads. Hodges concentrated on Poms, while Jatovecky on her mid-year spread.



Teamwork is a key factor in the yearbook classroom. Senior Genevieve Arnold helps out another staff member with their spread.



To teach the students basic defense, Mr. Jose Rivas uses senior Joshua Henry as an example. Here he is using self defense hand movements.

Defense made fun

Story by KAREN EINSEKLEINER

The Korean art of self defense, tae kwon do, is a popular style of karate that is offered to all students as an after school activity. Literally translating as "the art of hand and foot fighting,"

the sport takes much focus and dedication. The group meets two times a week, as well as occasional belt ceremonies. Whether the student is involved for fun or for exercise, it is a great way to

learn self defense. "I like having fun with friends and learning how to defend myself. I don't dislike anything about it so far," says freshman Nikolas Skubish. Students are taught forms, kicks, sparing, and other various basic defense techniques. While some join to be involved and make new friends, sophomore Michael Benjamin decided to join, "to get stronger and learn self defense."



Photo by Stephanie Greer

Here the students are being taught basic forms. Forms help to aid in the development of coordination and rhythm.

To demonstrate an attack, senior Robert Cretelius is pinned to the ground. His opponent has defeated him, as he is not able to get up.



Photo by Megan Richmond





photo by Krissan Cieszkiewicz

As a target,
sophomore Brittni Chambers holds up a kicking pad for her partner. This technique is used to help the students develop and master their aim and control.



photo by Erica Rodriguez



photo by Erica Rodriguez



photo by Megan Richmond

In a fighting position, freshman Se-Jin Hwang is preparing herself against her opponent. This stance enables her to attack or defend with either hand or foot.

Formed in a pretzel, sophomore Michael Benjamin is stretching. It is important to warm up the muscles before practice to reduce the risk of injury and become more flexible.

WHAT IS YOUR BEST ACHIEVEMENT?



"It would have to be when I completed my training for brown belt. My goal is to have my black belt by the end of senior year."

EDDY DREES JUNIOR

"So far my orange belt. My future goals include getting my green belt this year."

RICHARD PRICE JUNIOR

"I can pull off a thunder kick."

"My number one goal is to achieve a black belt."

DAVID MONTGOMERY JUNIOR



Learning To be a Marine

Story and photos by Stefanie Greer

Here at Portage High School, we are presented with the ROTC program, which stands for Reserves Officers Training Corps. Our specific program here is led up by Marine officers that teach students respect and discipline. "ROTC has educated me in leadership, self-esteem, self-discipline, and respect for others," said Freshman Joseph Di Cicco.

The Marine officers have around 50 students per class to teach each and every day. Students join ROTC for many different reasons. They can sign up at anytime of the year and have it for as many terms as they would like to be in. "I joined ROTC to try something new and both of my grandfathers were in the military," said junior Amanda Zaragoza.

Major Johnston and other Marine officers show the students what being in the Marine Corps would actually be like if they decide to join after high school. They literally treat students who join ROTC like they are in the Marines.

"ROTC has taught me about respect and about what's going on in the world today, like the war in Iraq," said freshman Vanessa Reyes.

About once a week, mainly on

Fridays, students are told to wear their uniforms to school and be ready for inspection when they get to class. Inspection is not taken lightly at all by the officers.

"To get ready for inspection I have to iron my uniform, polish my boots, brass check for small flaws to fix, and shave my hair," said Freshman Logan Cloyd.

Some students like wearing their uniforms to school, while others do not. There are many different reasons people like wearing their outfits. One reason is that their uniform shows off their rank, because all the uniforms are different and unique. You could be a private, a sergeant, and eventually lieutenant sergeants.

"I like wearing my uniform to school, because I feel proud for honoring our fallen soldiers," said senior Jami Williams.

ROTC works out during school hours and learn certain life skills yet they don't just do things during school hours. They also participate in many other activities.

"ROTC participates in civic services, selling tickets at games, cleaning up parking lots, activities such as car washes, and holiday parties," said sophomore Kayla Tyka.



Online sophomore Michael Locke researches for a paper that he has to write for class. Locke found great resources on the various websites that will help him.

At ACES, the JROTC marched down the halls showing their pride for our school and nation. They held our nation's flag up high to symbolize honor and loyalty to all!





While walking during the homecoming parade, JROTC chanted out words of wisdom to the crowd. The crowd stood up and clapped as they walked by.

As the homecoming parade commences, JROTC showed their spirit and pride by carrying their flag. The crowd is amazed which forced them to stand up and salute towards soldiers.



Photo by Stephanie Greer



Photo by Stephanie Greer



DO YOU LIKE WEARING YOUR UNIFORM TO SCHOOL?



"I feel very proud and privileged to wear it to school."

MANDI RANEY JUNIOR

"A lot of the time you get laughed at, but it gives you a feeling of superiority."

BEXIS WOOD FRESHMAN



"I am proud to wear it to school. It shows I'm doing something worthwhile to me."

EATON JENN TILLOTTS SENIOR

The block 3 class waits and listens while their scores are read from a previous test. All members hope that their hard work paid off with a great score.

Students of JROTC listen intently to Major Johnston while he teaches them about the Marine Corps. Students know to pay close attention to him.



WHAT IS THE BEST THING THAT HAPPENED THIS YEAR

"The best thing that happened this year is that we finally got new uniforms, because we really needed them!"

LEAH TAYLOR JUNIOR



STUDENTS BAND TOGETHER

Here at Portage High School we have the Symphonic Band program that is lead up by Mr. Symer and Concert Band, which is conducted by Mr. Timmerman. It is filled with students that want to learn and who love to play their instruments. Concert Band is first block, which is consisted mainly of freshman through Juniors while symphonic band is second block and is made up of Juniors and seniors.

"My band is hard working, patient, which takes skills and sanity to handle certain things, and it is fun," said Senior Joshua Farley.

A lot of students that are in symphonic band are ready after high school to become professional musicians if they so desire to. Of course not

everyone takes up the trades they learn in symphonic band after they get out of school. For some people playing an instrument is just a fun past time for them.

"I plan to be a music teacher after high school and I will be continuing my studies at Butler University," said senior Jeremy Bucy.

Students that are in symphonic band have most likely been playing their instruments for around 6 years maybe more, maybe less. They practice very hard in school and out of school. At practices students rehearse music, have contests, work on pieces, and do what they think they need to do. All of them work hard and are very dedicated to what they do and how they play.



At the band festival seniors received awards for various events. Most of them received awards for all their hard work.

Drums are a specialty to freshman, Alex Gainer who has been playing the drums for awhile. He has been playing them for years and enjoys them greatly!





Trumpets, saxophones, and flute players alike join together to make beautiful music. Their harmonies blend great together on certain songs only the teacher would know.

While Mr. Robert Symer instructed the all willing jazz band they played their hearts out. It seemed that all practices had prepared them.

photos by: Kelley Yudt



At the band festival Mr. Michael DePasquale conducted his students through various songs. He is a great leader.

Together Seniors Timothy Slatton and Aimee Bass danced while the band played. By the end of the night they had mastered it.

New to the club,
freshman
Thomas Mathis
watches other
students. This is
the first time
Mathis has
played in the
guitar club.

While watching
other members,
freshman Timothy
Standarski
concentrates on
the tune. Paying
close attention to
the movement of
his fingers.



Frustrated,
sophomore
Stephanie
Beam looks
over her sheet
music. It can
be very
discouraging
not being able
to get the
music right.





Determined to get the song accurate, junior Erin Wang places her fingers on just the right chords to get the perfect harmony. Wang loves to play the guitar in her spare time.

PLAYING A NEW KIND OF MUSIC

STORY BY ERICA RODA

A rather new addition to our high school this year is the Acoustic Latin Guitar Club. This club is organized by Mrs. Rodea whom helps students learn about the guitar, and teaches them how to play music by different composers.

"We play both new and old Latin songs and we also learn different kinds of melodies," stated sophomore

Nathan Beal. Both beginner and advanced guitar players were welcomed to the club. There were also a few members who learned to play the guitar at the club. Freshman

Thomas Mathis stated, "I have been playing the guitar for 9 years. I also play the Electric Guitar, which was very hard to learn."

Students not only get to learn how to improve their guitar skills, and taught how to play new music, but they also acquire skills that are very helpful outside Acoustic Latin Guitar Club.

"This club is really awesome, it has taught me so much. One main thing that I have learned through this club was the importance of responsibility. Freshman Thomas Mathis addressed.



In order to start playing, sophomore Felicia Hendricks tunes her guitar. Tuning a guitar is one of the most important things to do.

With his attention on the teacher, freshman Thomas Mathis makes sure he is playing the right chords. He's just learning to play a song by visual learning.

MARCHING WITH SPIRIT

STORY BY JESSICA LOUPT

Friday night the lights turn on, and the crowd starts filing through the gates with anticipation of entertainment and victory. The excitement of a football game would not be complete without the pounding of our school spirited Indian drum. This is provided to us by the greatly accomplished Marching Indians.

The marching band that is conducted under Mr. Depasquale and Mr. Timmerman performs at every home football game. They lead the way before the game and during half time. Also, they occasionally play during the game, when the team is doing an awesome job out on the field to get the crowd pumped up. Each of these talented instructors not only helps students learn different types of music, they also teach them how to have discipline, and show school spirit.

It has been 15 years since the band had new uniforms. This year they finally got them. The uniforms were old and didn't fit the students very well. The new attire is more fitting and looks a lot nicer. Funding from the Portage Music Boosters and the school paid for them. This improvement of outfit gave the band a new look to match their music.

"I like the new uniforms because they are more form-fitting and don't make us look huge. Also, they just look a lot better," stated junior Ashley Sandlin. Long practice dedication is essential if you plan

on playing in the marching band. Students memorize music, learn formations, and marching skills. They practice for three hours, two days a week. Practice takes place outside on the grass behind the football field.

"It's tough when we practice because it's usually cold outside and it takes a long time to get formations together." Said junior Brittney Bennett.

The Marching Indians not only play at football games but they also do a few local performances during holiday parades, such as the Fourth of July parade. This is a big performance for the band.

A note to the performance is during homecoming. Competing is another activity that marching band does. The band has competed three times this year. They competed once at Penn High School and twice at Concorde High School. They do not get places for their accomplishments, but they do get scores that show how well they performed.

"Competing is fun, but it takes a lot of work to get everything together. I think the best thing about it is getting to hear the other bands out there play," said sophomore, Jonathan Guerrero.

The band also has a color guard to add to the festivities of the music. In color guard, students twirl and dance with multicolored flags. Just like playing music, this activity takes a lot of hard work and practice. The color guard also performs at football games and special events with the band.

"I joined color guard because it's pretty and



Photo by: Katie Batista

"I have fun with everyone," stated sophomore Lauren Konyk. Being part of the Marching Indians to some is like having a second family. This is because of the amount of time and effort spent with other peers brings them close together. Students find friendship, good times, and appreciation of something they love to do.

Concentration is a prime element. Sophomore Chris Frechette shows off his drumming skills at halftime. Many spectators watched as the band performed.



Photo by: Katie Batista



Photo by Jessica Bolint

In perfect formation, freshman Maerose Siroky performs during a game. While playing each member awaits with anticipation for the next beat to initiate a change in position.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST about watching band



"The best thing is being able to get into all the games we perform at for free."

BRYTTANY BENNETT JUNIOR

"I like hanging out with all my friends, the parties, and the long distance competitions."

NICK KOTIK JUNIOR

"In color guard getting to learn routines is a lot of fun, also the flags are pretty."

KYNTAN Deyoung Sophomore



Photo By Ashley Jaroszewski

With eight years of performing, it seemed only natural for Kraig Kniotek, to join the pep band. He is playing an electric Zeta stand-up bass. He also plays the regular bass in orchestra class.



Photo by Ashley Jaroszewski

Magnificent flute playing during a basketball game is done by seniors Amy Bell and junior Kristin Coffey. They bring melody and soul at every home game there is.

To honor the academic teams, jazz band members played songs in the commons. Junior Jared Blatioris, sophomores Amanda Bridges, Jonathan Guerrero, and Alysha Bingham are under the direction of band teacher Mr. Robert Symer.



Photo By Ashley Jaroszewski



Photo by Meagan Frazee

When playing at an orchestra, it's important to keep their concentration under the pressure. Freshman Samuel Fazekas tries his best to watch the conductor and keep his eyes on his music so that he doesn't lose his place in the song.

Freshman Samuel Fazekas tries his best to watch the conductor and keep his eyes on his music so that he doesn't lose his place in the song.

Each year the orchestra invites to perform something special for their concerts. At the annual holiday concert, Greta and Kathy Kotyuk were the special narration guests for the story of "The Night Before Christmas" while the orchestra played the accompanying part.



Photo by Jessica Schubert

Why DID YOU CHOOSE YOUR INSTRUMENT?

"I picked the bass because I'm a pretty big guy and I needed a big instrument. It's a lot of fun and it is also challenging to play."

Ryan Farah, 12, Sophomore

"I didn't like the violin because it was too high, and the bass was too big, so I tried the cello and it was just right."

Anna Duff, 12, Freshman

"I picked the viola because I loved the sound. It had a rich deep sound and that is why I wanted to play it."

Timothy Björne, Freshman





PHOTO BY MEGAN FERGUSON

After one of the orchestra concerts the students decided to have a dance party in the parking lot. They all got together and danced the night away to the music of DJ Eric Schenck's car. The students are very close and like to do something together as a group after a concert or big event.

a SCHOOL year OF FIRSTS

STORY BY MEGAN FERGUSON

run out concerts this year.

"It is really fun because we are able to go out and play for the community," Says junior Randi Stone. "It is nice to know that care enough to have us play for them."

Around the holidays they went to some local businesses and played Christmas carols.

"I am so proud of the kids," States Mrs. Carlson. "There is no other plaque in the room that has this sticker on it so it is truly an honor." This sticker is an award that means that the Portage High School Orchestra placed higher than any other orchestra, for organizational contest, in the state. This is the first time in all of the years that the orchestra has competed in this competition, that the orchestra has received this award. The students were all very excited about this award and hope that they can win it again next year.



PHOTO BY MEGAN FERGUSON

When you are in orchestra, you never know what Mrs. Carrie Carlson is going to throw at you, and this year she threw more curve balls than the students could count. The orchestra participated and received a first in their first jazz competition, they had many run-out concerts this year, and the orchestra even received a "With Distinction" sticker to add to their first place plaque that they won this year.

"It was a lot of fun being able to write my and perform my own solo for the competition" Says junior Katie Moehl. One element of the competition was an improvisation section where the students had to write their own solos. This was the first time that any orchestra at Portage High School ever competed in this competition and the symphonic orchestra exceeded their own expectations and received a first place.

On top of their regular concerts and competitions, the orchestra also had many



PHOTO BY MEGAN FERGUSON

Many students in orchestra play more than one instrument or are enrolled in more than one music class. For example sophomore Danielle Sommers she plays both the strings, piano and is a member of the choir. Sommers also composes and sings her own music.

After weeks of hard work, the orchestra students finally received a "free day." Some students choose to play cards or just talk to their friends, but sophomore Daniel Deneau decided that he would use his free time to catch up on some sleep.

For the first time in years, the Zeta instruments were brought out for all the instruments used on Charlie Daniel's Devil Went Down to Georgia, in which senior Erica Saneznick played the first violin part. This was the first time playing the Zetas at Portage High School.

Zeta festival is one of the hardest concerts that the orchestra can prepare for because it is very hard to hear yourself over the other instruments. It is hard for Stephanie Coffman and Brandon Bitter to do much of their own part. There will be three Zeta festival, since seniors do not participate in it.



PHOTO BY ERICA SANEZNIK



PHOTO BY ERICA SANEZNIK



PHOTO BY ERICA SANEZNIK

For the annual end of the year festival, the orchestra members stay after school and help set up. Junior Alyssa Schmitz and senior Steven Schmitz prepare to load up the bus to take down to the gym for the performance later that night.

Every year, the orchestra prepares music to perform for the annual organizational contest held in Munster. Seniors Chris Bolint, Jane Zervos, and Jimmie Stoen are addressing the first place gold plaque that the class won this year.

PHOTO BY ERICA SANEZNIK



PHOTO BY ERICA SANEZNIK



WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO JOIN ORCHESTRA



"I remember my Grandma listening and watching Andre Rieu on TV and he was dazzling and I wanted to be as good as him. My passion is the cello, but I love the violin too."

TIMOTHY THOMPSON JUNIOR

"I loved playing in middle school and a lot of my friends were in orchestra so I decided that I would continue to play in high school."



"My cousin inspired me. He is studying to be an orchestra teacher and I remember telling him when I was seven that I was going to be better than him."

MEGAN MARTIN SENIOR

"I loved playing in middle school and a lot of my friends were in orchestra so I decided that I would continue to play in high school."



Although festival is over, the seniors in orchestra still have to play their last piece of school. Senior Asya Karpman looks over the music that the seniors decided to play. Their options included "Once Upon A December" from the movie Anastasia.



Photo by Leah Lai



Photo by Leah Lai



Photo by Leah Lai

At this year's Halloween concert, freshman Kaitlyn Karpman dressed up like a cat. The costumes this year were very creative, an Olympic gymnast, Jesus, a doll named Anna, and many more. All of the costumes were creative and different in their own unique way.

This year's fall concert will most likely be different than previous years because it was the first year that the orchestra students were allowed to dress up in a Halloween costume. Sophomores Anna Karpman and Sophia Coleman (right) with senior Heather Hulgard while waiting for their turn to perform.

CHOraliers

MORE THAN THE EXPECTED

Story by KENDRA YUDT

The Portage High School Choraliers is an organization in which students dance and sing at special occasions and also at competitions. The Choralier girls are all in some form of choir here at PHS.

Although this year the group only consists of girls, it has had gentlemen in the past.

"It would probably be a lot better if there were also guys in the group, we would be able to do a lot more dance moves and songs if we had guys in our group," Junior Brittany Williams addressed.

There are several leaders of the Choraliers. Each girl gives a certain enthusiasm to the group.

"I feel that Shannon and Holly are the leaders of the group because they keep us on task at every practice and competition," Freshman Kylie Beaujread stated.

Each girl has their own way to prepare for a show. Voice-overs are held before the show in order to get each and every lady in tune.

"My favorite tradition or exercise that we do is Choralier Kisses, MUAAH!" Sophomore Danielle Sommers explained.

This year has been outstanding for the girls. Moments of drama and excitement drew the girls closer throughout the year.

While clapping for other members, freshman Brittany Evola flashes a big smile. Evola enjoyed the 2005 group.



Heads rotting, senior Shannon Stutler leads the group in the dance. Freshman Melissa Hale concentrates on her moves.



After their hard work and dedication, the choraliers performed at festival. Each girl struck one last pose to end the night.





At the pre-contest chair concert, choristers performed their number "Fever." The number was a great hit to end the night.

Along with fellow choir members, the girls bid farewell to the senior's. The seniors will be missed greatly next year.



WHEN AND WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO JOIN



"I decided in sixth grade. I loved to sing and dance, and I looked up to people in it at the time."

KRISTIN FODOR, SENIOR



"I always wanted to be in the group ever since I was in middle school."

DANIELLE LOTT, SOPHOMORE



"I really love dancing, and I knew that this would be the thing for me!"

WENDY BANG, SENIOR



With great enthusiasm, seniors Samantha Newbeck and Beaudreut lead the group. Both girls have been in choristers through high school.



Smile spread across her face, sophomore Kylie Beaudreut sings with her fellow members. Beaudreut is a key essential to the group.

By captivating the audience with her solo, senior Samantha Lingenfelter sang proudly from her new book Solitary. On stage she wowed everyone with her magnificent voice.

SING IT TO The Choir

—STORY BY GENEVIEVE GATTE, D

Every year girls glee always sings strong and proud, with everybody enjoying every ounce of blissful sound that comes out of all of the girls mouths. Usually choir has an assortment of boys and girls to offer different tones and pitches to the music. This year though it's all about the girls.

"It's all about girly music and having fun, not many classes are just about girls," states junior Monica Goheen.

The girls love dominating and having the class and choir to themselves. The girls say it brings them closer together and now all of them have a special bond. Although in class time is a blast they get down to business

When it comes time to sing their hearts out at the concerts they do.

"The Christmas Show by far, because I love the music and it was the best concert that I think we have done all year," says senior Stephanie Stasi.

All of the girls have different ways and techniques of warming up and relaxing before a concert show.

"I just sit back and relax before a concert, I try and have fun and take my mind off of everything," states junior Sarah Mustafa.

All of the girls love to sing and all of them have fun doing it. It is a great opportunity for all of the girls to have fun and expand their vocal skills.

PHOTO BY KELLEY YUDK



In perfect sync, five choir girls sing their hearts out. The girls have learned their numbers numerous times throughout the year, ensuring it will be excellent.

While singing to the piano, senior Holly Benz belts out her melodious song. Benz has been in choir throughout her four years of high school.





WHAT DO YOU DO TO GET ready for a concert?



"I just have fun, relax, and after the concert we usually all go out together."

KONNIE CONSON JUNIOR

"I practice, sing to myself, and try to relax before I go on the stage."

SARAH MUSTOFO JUNIOR

"I practice singing the high notes, because I got to sing them in our senior song."

JENNIFER VATE SENIOR



The girls of choir gave their best to the audience. The ten girls gave a great performance all around.



While the teacher played the piano, the girl's choir gave it their all to keep up with her. It seemed that they were able to keep up quite well!

While singing to their song, the choir girls stay with the tune. The girls practice throughout the year to ensure an outstanding concert show.

COMMUNITY AND FAMILY NEEDS

STORY BY NIKITA TAPOROWSKI

Many people may not know exactly what the FCCLA is because it is such a new activity at Portage High School.

The members are starting to grow bigger and bigger as time goes on.

"The FCCLA is the Family Career and Community Leaders of America. It is a good program for anyone that enjoys cooking and likes to help people," stated freshman Brittany Boyd.

The FCCLA has meetings every two weeks. They meet to discuss what events they will be doing next.

"I decided to join the FCCLA for many reasons. I like it because we get to eat and make food all the time. My favorite was making the cookie dough because it was so good," said

Brittany Boyd.

The FCCLA is an activity for any and everyone who enjoys learning about eating and cooking. You also get to help people by learning about proper nutrition.

Junior Kate Mills stated, "I really enjoy this program because I feel like a part of something. There is tons of games and food. It is also tons of fun for everyone."

The FCCLA does many activities at every meeting and they play many different games to learn about who they are. They also learn about how they can help the community.

"My favorite part is all the good laughs we share. We are all open with each other and we can talk about the different things that are going on in our community and learn how to make it better for everyone," said Kate Mills.

All in all, the FCCLA is a great organization for anyone interested in learning about their families and their community and how it all works together. It will help you to better understand your surroundings here at Portage High School.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF FCCLA?

"I like helping people and learning a lot of fun and new things about the community."

SARAH HANVORT, JUNIOR

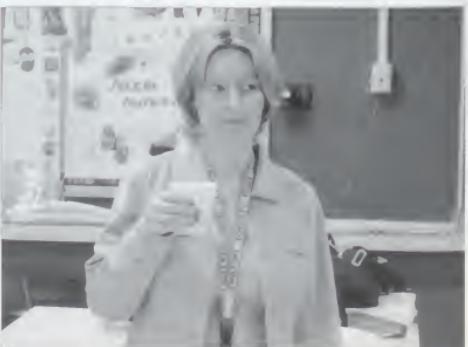


The FCCLA is fun for everyone interested in helping people.

Junior Kate Mills is thinking of ideas to help the community.

FCCLA instructor Mrs. Gannon is also one of the leaders of the club.

Mrs. Gannon is a teacher here at PHS. She enjoys helping the members learn about family and community needs for future references.



The members of FCCLA enjoy making and trying many types of food. Freshmen Brittany Boyd and Brittni Cain make some food during a meeting.

Teacher Mrs. Chatmiers is also one of the leaders of the FCCLA. Mrs. Chatmiers helps the members make food at some of the different meetings they have.



Everybody in the FCCLA takes part in all activities. Junior Korea Smith helps eat cookies that the FCCLA had made to sample.

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*The Portage High School
Publications staff offer our
condolences to the family and
friends of Mr. Jason Cope and
Patrick West. It is our wish
that you use the blank space
on these pages to write some
of your own favorite memories
of these two individuals.*

In Memoriam



Above all be kind to each other, for it might make a difference. Pat was always kind and caring. We hope that he will be remembered as the bright, multi-talented, generous boy that he was.

- The West Family

In Memoriam

"Losing Jason was, without a doubt, the hardest thing my family and I have had to endure. The strength we gained from the students at PHS was our saving grace. We cried with the students who not only lost a teacher, but also a friend and laughed with those who purposely failed his class in order to have him another year. We were amazed at the grace of those who thanked his parents for bringing such a wonderful man into this world and allowing him to teach them. Whatever is said about the youth of today, we know first hand how caring, thoughtful, and remarkable you truly are. Thank you for loving him and making his short life so full."

-Mrs. Tami Kempshire
and the Cope family





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